

(c) whether the Government have any plan to include the Waltair and Sambalpur in the East Coast Railway in future; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) :
(a) It was originally proposed to include Khurda Road, Waltair and Sambalpur Divisions in the newly formed East Coast Railway.

(b) and (c) The detailed territorial Jurisdiction of East Coast Railway has not yet been finalised.

(d) Does not arise.

Additional Funds to Steel Companies

739. SHRI D.S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial institutions have decided to provide an additional funds to certain Steel Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any terms and conditions have been imposed by the financial institutions in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the Steel Companies thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (e)
The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[Translation]

Backlog of Reserved Posts

740. SHRI ANUPLAL YADAV :
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :
SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ 341 dated May 28, 1998 and state:

(a) whether the information regarding backlog of SCs/ STs and OBCs posts has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the vacancies reserved for SC/ST and OBC have been filled up during the last six months, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) :
(a) to (c) Information regarding backlog of 'Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes' and 'Other Backward Classes' posts in different categories which had been forwarded to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for the consideration of the Committee on Government Assurances (Lok Sabha) on 16.9.1998 are as under:—

Details of backlog vacancies of SC/ST/OBC in different categories. Recruitment

Year	Group 'C'			Group 'D'		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
1995-96	951	1010	926	1460	1886	1072
1996-97	788	878	711	1157	1779	705
1997-98	1014	1112	1418	739	1236	2692

Backlog of SC/ST/OBC cleared

Year	Group 'C'			Group 'D'		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
1995-96	704	587	928	1067	1420	528
1996-97	961	810	1415	1084	907	853
1997-98	617	548	932	1207	1160	255

Accrual of vacancies and filling of the same is a continuous process.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

Linking of Noida with Rail Network*[English]*

741. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made so far in regard to link Noida (U.P.) with rail network;

(b) whether the Government have since received the survey report in this regard;

(c) if so, the date on which the Government have received the survey report; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) :

(a) The survey has been taken up.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Survey is still in progress.

State Level Regulatory Bodies for Housing Sector

742. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the States to set up State Level regulatory bodies for housing sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide fiscal concession for housing sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Instead the National Housing and Habitat Policy, 1998 emphasises that the State Governments would liberalise the legal and regulatory regime to give a boost to housing and supporting infrastructure.

(c) The National Housing and Habitat Policy, 1998 says that the Central Government would provide fiscal concessions for housing, infrastructure, innovative and energy saving construction materials and methods and also set up a regulatory mechanism to ensure that the concessions are correctly targetted and utilised.