

[English]

**Development of Sabarmati River Front**

3124 SHRI HARIN PATHAK Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to assist the Gujarat Government for the development of 9 kms. Sabarmati River Front stretch; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) No specific proposal has been received as yet. A view on provision of assistance to the State Government will be taken as and when a proposal is received from them.

**Penalty Imposed on CONCOR**

3125. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of times penalty has been imposed on the Container Corporation of India (CONCOR) by the Customs Authority for contravention of the provisions of Customs Act 1962 by the CONCOR official at Inland container Depot and Container Freight Station in New Delhi.

(b) if so, the details thereof during 1996, 1997 and 1998, and

(c) the action taken by the CONCOR management against the officials responsible for such penalty?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two times, as per details below:-

1996	One
1997	Nil
1998	One

(c) (i) In case of penalty imposed in 1996, CONCOR has not accepted it and an appeal has been filed against the order in Central Excise and Gold Control Appellate Tribunal. As such the question of taking action against any CONCOR Official does not arise.

(ii) In case of penalty imposed in 1998, action has been taken against the persons responsible.

[Translation]

**Aircraft Security**

3126. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted or propose to constitute a committee to review the air safety arrangements of all the airports located in Bihar and Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Mining in Western Ghat**

3127. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are taking steps to minimise the impact of mining in the Western Ghats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to ban the mining in the Western Ghats forest areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Yes, the Government is taking steps to minimise the impact of mining in the Western Ghats. Besides the action being taken by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Central and State Pollution Control Board/s and concerned State Governments, Indian Bureau of Mines is ensuring compliance of statutory provisions for cleaner environment. An approved mining plan is a pre-requisite condition for fresh grant/renewal of mining leases and also existing mining leases. IBM has been empowered to approve the mining plan. Environment Impact Assessment and Environment Management Plan is an integral part of the mining plan. Before approving mining plan it is ensured that for land degradation, waste management, air pollution, water pollution and noise pollution effective measures have been incorporated so that the environment pollution is least.

(c) As per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 'no non forest' activity including 'mining' can take place in forest areas including Western Ghat forest areas.

(d) Does not arise.