

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Pawan Hans Ltd., at present, has no proposal to introduce helicopter services for Gurez (Baramulla) and Tandgader in (Kupwara) since the fare would be very high making them commercially unviable.

Tourism Potentiality in West Bengal

1950. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to make a comprehensive plan of action to develop Darjeeling, Sunderbans, Shankarpur, Kalimpong and different parts of West Bengal keeping in view to generate employment scope; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b). It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to prepare comprehensive plan of action for development of Tourism in the States, however, the Department of Tourism provides financial assistance for specific project proposals to the State Governments based on their merits inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

The Government of West Bengal has prepared a project Report for the Development of Tourism in Sunderbans at an estimated cost of Rs. 600 lakhs and development of Tourism facilities at Alipurduar & adjoining areas at an estimated cost of Rs. 552.25 lakhs.

Coverage of AIR Network in States

1951. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of population covered by AIR stations State/UT-wise;

(b) whether a number of representations have been received by the Government to expand AIR Network in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to provide cent percent coverage to all the States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) The details of percentage of population covered by AIR Stations in various States and Union Territories are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c). Since 01.04.94, a total of 25 representations for expansion/development of AIR network in the country have been received from different states as per details at enclosed Statement-II.

(d) and (e). Barring a few isolated pockets, radio coverage on Medium Wave/FM Transmitters is available throughout the country. In addition, radio coverage across the entire country is also available on Short Wave Band. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to reach hitherto uncovered areas subject to availability of necessary infrastructure facilities and resources.

STATEMENT-I

All India Radio

State-wise Coverage During Day-time

		Population % covered
1	2	3
I. STATES		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	99
3.	Assam	86
4.	Bihar	*99
5.	Goa	*99
6.	Gujarat	*99
7.	Haryana	*99
8.	Himachal Pradesh	88
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	97
10.	Karnataka	96
11.	Kerala	96.5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	97
13.	Maharashtra	99
14.	Manipur	*99
15.	Meghalaya	96
16.	Mizoram	95
17.	Nagaland	97
18.	Orissa	98
19.	Punjab	*99
20.	Rajasthan	98.5
21.	Sikkim	95
22.	Tamil Nadu	99
23.	Tripura	*99
24.	Uttar Pradesh	97.5
25.	West Bengal	*99

1	2	3
II. UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	A & N Islands	85
2.	Chandigarh	*99
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	*99
4.	Delhi	*99
5.	Daman & Diu	*99
6.	L & M Islands	*99
7.	Pondicherry	*99

NATIONAL COVERAGE

*Coverage in these states can normally be taken as 100% i.e. without taking into consideration the special requirement of certain situations.

STATEMENT - II

S.No.	Name of the State from which the Representations Received	No. of Representations Received
1.	Maharashtra	1
2.	Tripura	5
3.	Assam	3
4.	Nagaland	2
5.	West Bengal	1
6.	Sikkim	1
7.	Uttar Pradesh	2
8.	Gujarat	2
9.	Mizoram	2
10.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
11.	Orissa	1
12.	Karnataka	1
13.	Bihar	1
		25

Modernisation of Kanyakumari Railway Station

1952. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to modernise the Kanyakumari Railway Station; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Kanyakumari railway station is provided with amenities

commensurate with the volume of passenger traffic handled and there is no proposal for further modernisation at present.

[Translation]

Passenger Amenities at the Kharagpur Junction

1953. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the platform of Kharagpur Junction under South Eastern Railway is the longest platform in Asia and many complaints have been received from the passengers that platform Nos. 5 and 6 are very dirty, fans on this platform are not operational and there has been unauthorised occupation by people who are using these platforms as their permanent residence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the officials of South Eastern Railways have been found responsible for it;

(d) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(e) the action taken against the responsible officials, and

(f) the steps taken for providing facilities to passengers at the Kharagpur Junction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). All the six platforms at Kharagpur Junction are kept neat and clean and trains are received regularly. At times migrant banjara groups stay on the platforms while awaiting for trains to their destination.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

(f) Amenities commensurate with the volume of passenger traffic have been provided at Kharagpur Junction.

[English]

Locking of Reservation Quota at Jamnagar Railway Station

1954. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of complaints have been received in regard to Locking of Reservation quota at Jamnagar Railway Station in Rajkot Division of Western Railway;