

[Translation]

Telephone Connection in Maharashtra

1978. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of telephone connections installed in Maharashtra during the last three years, District-wise;

(b) whether any special scheme has been formulated for the development and extension of telephone exchanges & telephone services in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of funds allocated to the State for this purpose during 1996-97;

(e) whether Government have received complaints of irregularities in giving telephone connections; and

(f) if so, the details thereof. District-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (f). Information in respect of the question is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Hon'ble House.

T.C.A. System

1979. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make it mandatory for all operators coming to India to have transponders on their aircraft;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons for non-installation of TCA System?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Directorate General of Civil Aviation issued instructions in February, 1994 making it mandatory to install Mode 'S' Transponder on aircraft whose maximum weight is more than 5,700 kg and above and having seating capacity of 30 or more.

(c) ICAO regulations require that the mandatory carriage of Mode 'S' Transponder shall be on the basis of regional air navigation agreements and seven years notice. In view of this, Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) system could not be made mandatory with immediate effect.

Broad Gauge Line between Kolar-Bangarpet

1980. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) when was the work on broad gauging the Kolar-

Bangarpet section of the railway track started and when is it expected to be completed;

(b) the total cost of the project and the amount spent so far;

(c) whether used and rusted rails from Yelgi and Kuppam have been taken to Kolar ostensibly to be used to broad gauge the Kolar-Bangarpet sector; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The work was sanctioned in 1994-95. It is expected to be completed by 31.03.97.

(b) It is a part section of the Yelahanka-Chikballapur and Kolar-Bangarpet project on which Rs. 35.48 crs. has been spent upto 31.03.96 and an outlay of Rs. 5 crs. has been provided in this financial year.

(c) and (d). Good second hand rails with adequate residual life have been used on this sector. This is as per the normal practice of the Railways for lines having light traffic.

Singhania Safety Committee

1981. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :
SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA
MEHTA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Singhania Safety Committee has been disbanded after the resignation of its Chairman.

(b) whether it is a fact that safety measures only included distribution of safety leaflets by the Committee; and

(c) if so, the details of the work assigned?

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

(b) and (c). The functions of the Committee are to interact with the Airlines, regulatory authorities, Airports Authority and aviation support agencies with a view to creating safety awareness and educating their personnel to enhance the level of flight safety; organise safety seminars and develop safety posters for display throughout the country.

[Translation]

Railway Protection Force

1982. SHRI MANHARAN LAL PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of battalions/companies in Railway Protection Force along with location of their headquarters separately;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a new unit of Railway Protection Force at Jairam Nagar under Bilaspur division of South-Eastern Railway; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Railway Protection Force which is the reserve force in the RPF is distributed in the pattern of battalions and companies. There are 8 battalions of RPSF headquartered as given below :

- 1 Bn. - Lumding (Assam)
- 2 Bn. - Gorakhpur (U.P.)
- 3 Bn. - Lucknow (U.P.)
- 4 Bn. - New Jalpaiguri (W.B.)
- 5 Bn. - Tiruchirappalli (T.N.)
- 6 Bn. - Dayabasti, Delhi/35
- 7 Bn. - Moula Ali, Hyderabad (A.P.)
- 8 Bn. - Chittaranjan (W.B.)

Each Battalion has 5 operational companies and 1 Headquarter company. The operational companies are being deployed throughout the country wherever required as and when emergent situations arise.

The railway Protection Force is not organised in the pattern of battalions. The Force is deployed in the pattern of Posts and Outposts on need basis throughout the country wherever railway assets and installations are located.

(b) There is no proposal to set up a new unit of RPF at Jairam Nagar under Bilaspur Division of South Eastern Railway.

(c) Does not arise.

Stones in Devgauda Region of Madhya Pradesh

1983. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Devgauda region in Madhya Pradesh has rich deposits of precious alexandrite stone;

(b) whether since April, 1994 this precious stone worth crores of rupees has been sneaked out of the country via Orissa;

(c) whether the Government have enquired into this unauthorised mining ; and

(d) if so, outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Railway Projects

1984. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka to lay new Railway lines during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 as on September 30, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the name of the railway projects to be taken up during Eighth Five Year Plan in Karnataka; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on each of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kottur-Harihar and Kadur-Chickmagalur-Sakleshpur lines have since been taken up. Survey report for Hubli-Ankola new line has been sent to Planning Commission and surveys have been completed for Hassan-Bangalore and Chamarajanagr-Mettupalayan new lines.

(c) and (d).

New Lines	Cost (Rs. in crs.)
1. Kottur-Harihar	66.00
2. Kadur-Chickmagalur-Shakleshpur Gauge Conversion	157.00
1. Bangalore-Hubli with Birur/Shimoga-Talguppa	405.00
2. Hospet-Hubli-Goa with linked fingers	571.58
3. Londa-Miraj	176.52
4. Gadag-Hospet	180.00
5. Yelahanka-Chickballapur and Kolar-Bangarpet	57.00
6. Yeshoantpur-Salem	195.18
7. Arsikere-Hassan-Mangalore	185.00
8. Mysore-Hassan	116.00
Doubling	
1. Kuppam-Whitefield	105.00
2. Bangalore-Kangeri	24.00

National Channel of AIR

1985. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT BACHDA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Fixed Point Chart of national channel of All India Radio, New Delhi has recently been revised;