

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
(d)	Sector I Pkt. I	176	-	-	-	176	3/98	-do-	15.9.98
(e)	Sec. 9 (Out of 468)	144	-	-	-	144	3/98	-do-	Target not given by DVB likely to be completed by 12/98.
(f)	Sector, 13	176	-	-	-	176	3/98	-do-	7/98
(g)	Nasirpur Pkt. 6	-	96	-	-	96	3/98	-do-	Target not given by DVB likely to be completed by 12/98.
G. Total 16219									

*[English]***Rail Link from Diphu to Karong**

3304. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Railway link project from Diphu (Assam) to Karong (Manipur) and Imphal has been approved;

(b) if so, the present status of the project;

(c) the funds allocated in the current budget and for the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the efforts being made for early completion of project ?

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) A project for construction of rail link between Diphu and Karong as the 1st phase of the rail link to Imphal has been approved.

(b) The work is included in the budget and is to be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances for which action has already been initiated.

(c) Funds can be provided only after the clearances have been received.

(d) Efforts will be made to obtain more resources from the Planning Commission and to allocate the same to this project for satisfactorily progressing this project once the clearances become available and the work can be taken up.

*[Translation]***Removal of Railway Track**

3305. SHRI GAURI SHANKAR CHATURBHUI BISEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to remove Sanbgi to Katangjhari in Balaghat (Madhya Pradesh) railway track which is presently not being used for a long time;

(b) if so, whether tenders for removing the above rail track have been invited; and

(c) the time by which the above track is likely to be removed ?

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) and (c) No tender has been called, nor any time-bound frame-work for dismantling decided.

*[English]***Iron Ore Reserves**

3306. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :  
SHRI A. GANESHMURTHI :  
SHRI VAIKO :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have concluded any survey for exploration of iron ore reserves in the country;

(b) if so, the total estimated iron ore reserves available in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have studies the Environmental factors due to mining;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in preventing the pollution in river Bhadra, due to discharge from Kudremukh iron ore and VISL (Bhadravati) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Exploration is an ongoing activity. The State-wise estimated reserves in respect of Hematite and Magnetite Ores of Iron are listed below as on 1.4.95.

Unit : Million Tonnes	
Name of State	Total recoverable reserves
<i>Hematite</i>	
All India	10052
Andhra Pradesh	51
Bihar	2657
Goa	745
Karnataka	1072
Madhya Pradesh	1998
Maharashtra	227
Orissa	3293
Rajasthan	9
<i>Magnetite</i>	
All India	3408
Andhra Pradesh	418
Bihar	5
Goa	164
Karnataka	2784
Kerala	36
Rajasthan	Negligible
Tamil Nadu	1

(c) The environment factors have been studied both by Private and Government Agencies.

(d) Under Sector 5(2) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 before grant of mining lease by the State Government, a mining plan duly approved by the Central Government is a prerequisite. The mining plan which is approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) also includes an environmental management plan. Thus, in each operating mine, environmental factors have been studied and are being monitored regularly by the IBM. Under BRGM of France, there is collaboration item in Iron Ore Mines of North Goa Mineral Belt that would entail preparation of Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

(e) Preventive measures to ward off pollution in river Bhadra have been taken. They are (i) construction of two mini dams and well designed drainage system, besides a series of check bunds (ii) construction of diversion channel of Kudremukh Holey (iii) construction of a dam across Lakya stream whose height has also been increased to contain railings. The State Pollution Control Board monitors regularly the quality of water of river Bhadra at both points of entry and exit of the project area.

The measures adopted to control pollution at Kemmannugundi Iron Ore Mines of M/s VISL are afforestation of waste dumps and bunding at the foot of the waste dumps. VISL have also set up effluent treatment plants and sewage treatment plant to minimise pollution.

#### Withdrawal of Passenger Train

3307. SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether one pair of passenger train in Karimganj-Dhullavcherra route of N.F. Railway has recently been withdrawn ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the said pair of train is likely to be reintroduced ?

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) No, Sir. However one pair of Karimganj-Dullabcherra passenger was withdrawn w.e.f. 01.9.91.

(b) Poor patronisation.

(c) At present, there is no plan to reintroduce the train in view of poor patronisation.

#### Drought Prone Area Programme

3308. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIYA :  
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL .

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the name of districts covered under the Drought Prone Area Programme and the existing position in this regard State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated by the Union and State/ Governments and spent under the programme during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise and year-wise;