

Commercialisation of Railway Land

*134. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to commercial utilisation of Railway land and air space in the States;

(b) if so, the details of land and air space available with Railways in each State;

(c) the details of the funds to be raised by these means and utilised by the Railways;

(d) whether Railways proposed to use spare land commercially all over the India; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (d) The Government has recently approved setting up of MRVC (Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation). The proposal *inter-alia* envisages commercial development of railway land and air-space in Mumbai for raising resources to undertake Railways works. The Ninth Five Year Plan also provides for Railways taking recourse to Commercial development of land and air-space on land belonging to Railways as one of the non-tariff measures for resource generation. The Government has therefore, the intention to extend commercial development of railway land/air-space to all parts of the country.

(b), (c) and (e) As regards Mumbai, the details of the land available for commercial utilisation and the likely generation of funds therefrom would be worked out by the MRVC, after its formation. As regards other parts of the country, no details have so far been worked out.

Certification of Films by CBFC

*135. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of films cleared by the Central Board of Film Certification during 1997 and 1998;

(b) whether some of these films do not fulfil the requisite norms;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures the Government have taken or propose to take to enforce the norms strictly?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN):

(a) The number of Indian and foreign films (feature films, short films and other films) cleared by the Central Board of Film Certification during 1997 and 1998 is as follows:—

	1997	1998
(i) Theatrical films (35 mm etc. format)	2,064	2,177
(ii) Video films	1,295	1,029
Total:	3,359	3,206

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) All films intended for public exhibition in India are certified by the Central Board of Film Certification in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines issued thereunder. Improvement in its implementation is an ongoing process. Some of the measures taken in this respect are:—

(i) Scrutiny of songs and trailers of films to be telecast on Doordarshan.

(ii) Provision for 50% of the members of Examining Committee and Revising Committee to be women to bring greater gender awareness into the process.

(iii) Issue of specific clarifications by the Board about interpretation of the frequently violated guidelines to ensure proper application of the guidelines.

(iv) Showing of names of members of the Examining Committee/Revising Committee/Film Certification Appellate Tribunal on whose recommendation the film is cleared for public exhibition on the certificates granted to the film, introducing greater accountability.

Delegation of Powers to Zonal Managers

*136. SHRI K. PARYMOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have decided to delegate powers to Zonal General Managers to charge flexible rates for carrying freight;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways are considering to reduce classification of various commodities and to convenient rate norms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Under Section-30 and 31 of the Railways Act, 1989, the Central Government have been delegated powers to fix rates for freight traffic. Under Section 32 of this Act, the Railway Administrations (Zonal Railways) have been given powers to quote station to station rate and lump sum rate. The Ministry of Railways have prescribed norms to be followed by the General Managers of the Zonal Railways while quoting station to station rate, lump sum rate etc. so as to ensure uniformity, and cohesion in exercise of these powers. Powers being exercised by the General Managers are given below:—

- (i) Quotation of reduced Station to Station rates on commercial considerations subject to fulfilment of the stipulated conditions except for certain specified commodities.
- (ii) Grant of freight concession of upto 10% on non-programmed imported coal traffic originating on Southern and Western Railways subject to fulfilment of the stipulated conditions.
- (iii) Grant of 10% discount on incremental Traffic under the Volume Discount Scheme for the second half of the year 1998-99 in respect of Cement, Iron & Steel, Iron Ore, Sponge Iron and Clinker subject to fulfilment of the stipulated conditions.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Cancellation of Flights by Indian Airlines and Air India

*137. DR. SAROJA V.: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents in which Indian Airlines and Air India have cancelled its scheduled flights during July, 1998 to 15th February, 1999;

(b) the total loss suffered on this account, Airline-wise and sector-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to avoid such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The total number of flights cancelled by Air India and Indian Airlines during the period July, 1998 to 15.2.99 and the estimated loss suffered are as under:—

	No. of flights cancelled	Estimated Loss (Rs. in lakhs)
Indian Airlines	1404	2089.40
Air India	79	237.00

(c) Technical delays and cancellations are investigated, analysed and appropriate remedial action taken. Special attention is paid to identify and rectify repetitive snags. Effective coordination is ensured amongst various departments so that delays do not result in cancellations. There is continuous follow-up with vendors and aircraft manufacturers for upgradation of technical know-how and for improvement in the reliability of components.

Action Plan for Growing Air Traffic

*138. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has chalked out an Action Plan for total overhaul of the international airport network in the country to cater to the needs of the growing traffic;

(b) if so, the main points of expansion are likely to be taken up;

(c) whether the Airports Authority of India has taken a decision to invest about Rs. 20,000/- crores for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the source from where the funds are proposed to be raised?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b)