

APEDA provides assistance for feasibility studies, surveys consultancy and data base upgradation. It also provides assistance for infrastructure development, export promotion, market development, packaging and promotion of quality. To encourage exports of the processed foods, Government is providing financial assistance for the setting up/expansion/modernisation of food processing plants, for R&D and promotional activities including publicity, market promotion, quality control etc. In addition, in accordance with the general policy of Government for promoting exports, 100% Export Oriented Food Processing units and such units located in the Free Trade Zones, get complete customs duty exemptions on imported capital goods, intermediates, components and raw materials in accordance with the EXIM Policy in force. That policy also provides in general for upto 50% of the production of 100% Export Oriented Unit or a unit in the Free Trade Zone, to be sold in the domestic market. Such domestic sales are normally at higher profit margins than export sales. Furthermore, all profits from export sales are completely free from corporate taxes.

#### Upgradation of MIG-21

1374. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI 'CHELLAMELLA':  
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for delay in upgrading MIG-21 aircraft for enhancing their capabilities; and
- (b) the time schedule by which the upgradation programme is proposed to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The reasons for delay in upgrading MIG-21 aircraft is because of delay in the supply of systems of non-Russian origin and customs related problems in Russia.

The upgradation programme is now planned to be completed in the year 2003.

#### Breakdown in Computerised Reservation

1375. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the frequent breakdown of computerised Railway Reservation System in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some kind of complaints regarding the computerised Railway Reservation of New Delhi have also been received;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to set up the system in order?

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) to (e) Yes, Sir. These are mainly attributed to telecommunication link failures, equipment failures and computer system failures. Railways are maintaining constant touch with Department of Telecom (DOT) to rectify telecommunication faults and old equipments are being replaced to reduce the failures and to sustain high degree of efficiency.

#### Maintenance and Electrification of Kharagpur-Vishakhapatnam Railway Track

1376. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the urgent repair, maintenance and electrification of Kharagpur and Vishakhapatnam Railway track;
- (b) if so, the whether any steps have been taken in that direction; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

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) Between Vishakhapatnam-Kharagpur, 124 Kms. of track has been renewed during 1997-98 and during 1998-99, 161 kms. of track is targetted to be renewed and the progress till January, 1999 is 120 kms.

As regards electrification, section between Vishakhapatnam & Alamanda (38 route km.) has already been energised in March, 1998. Another 85 kms. is targetted to be completed upto 31-3-1999.