

[*English*]

Licence for Slitting and Confectioning of Photo-sensitised Material

7857. DR. GOLAM YAZDANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd. are carrying on the activity of Slitting and confectioning of Photo-sensitised materials;

(b) if so, whether Company has been issued the licence for this activity as required under Notification No. S.O. 428 (E) dated July 18, 1986 issued under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJITSINGH): (a) to (c). M/s Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited (HPF) have been permitted by the Government to carry out the activity of slitting/confectioning of photo-sensitized materials within their overall licensed capacity for the manufacture of various photo-sensitized materials for which they hold Industrial Licence No. L/20 (1) (1) -NU/Ch. 1/61 dated 20.2.61.

[*Translation*]

Catering Service in Rajdhani Express

7858. DR. KHUSHAL PARASHRAM BOPCHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western Railway has imposed restrictions on the serving of certain food items in the Rajdhani Express;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether passengers of Rajdhani Express have requested for reintroducing

the sale of such banned items; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to make arrangements for the sale of these items?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only such items as have sufficient demand from passengers are included in the a-la-carte menu. Even though chicken was not on a-la-carte menu, it was being served without authorisation, and therefore, its service was stopped. Instead, other popular items such as patties, samosas, etc. are being served.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Short Distance Travellers

7859. SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the policy of government to discourage short distance travel by passengers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the alternative available to the short distance travellers?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). Various expert Committees appointed by the Government have generally observed that railway is a more suitable mode of transport for long distance and medium distance travel, and for heavy commuter traffic in metropolitan areas and other dense corridors and, that roads are more economical and suitable

for short distance passenger transport. The Railways, therefore, accord higher priority to long and medium distance intercity transport.

[*Translation*]

Project to Manufacture Aromatics and PTA at Saleempur In U.P.

7860. DR. BENGALI SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a letter of intent has been issued for setting up of a project for manufacture of Aromatics and PTA at Salempur in Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh:

(b) if so, when the work on this project is likely to start: and

(c) by what time this project is likely to be completed and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The company has informed that they have taken necessary steps towards acquisition of land, site testing, tie-up of water, power, action for getting environmental clearance, selection of technology, financing of project etc. The party is yet to come up for approvals for foreign collabora-

tion and import of equipments etc. Normally it takes 4-5 years in completion of the project after getting all Government clearances.

[*English*]

Withdrawal of Subsidies

7861. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Railways Minister has issued a status paper on Indian Railways on 1 March, 1990 regarding some issues and options:

(b) whether there is any proposal to give up all subsidies, particularly on second class travel and reduce progressively the gross subsidy on freight to reduce escalation in cost of essential commodities: and

(c) what would be the gain to the Indian Railways in all the existing subsidies and concessions are given up and services are maintained cost based, service-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The financial effect of social obligations on Indian Railways for 1989-90 has been estimated as under:

		<i>Rs/Crores</i>
Loss on Coaching Service	:	1763.47
Loss on low rated commodities	:	216.05
Total	:	1979.52

If the Railways are compensated for these social obligation, the Railways would get a relief of Rs. 1979.52 crores.