

**Reduction in Expenditure by Railway Undertakings**

\*19. SHRIMATI MARAGATHAM CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by the railway undertakings to effect the required reduction in expenditure in view of the directives issued from the Finance Ministry;

(b) whether the necessary precautions have been taken to protect the required strength of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various cadres of services while abolishing a large number of posts in railways to reduce administrative expenditure; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) In accordance with the directives of the Ministry of Finance in January, 1982, the measures for reduction in expenditure being taken by the five Public Sector Undertakings of the Ministry of Railways, namely, Rail India Technology and Economic Services Ltd. (RITES), Indian Railway Construction Company Ltd. (IRCON), Container Corporation Ltd. (CONCOR), Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) and Konkan Railway Corporation (KRC), are: (i) Surrender of 10% of telephone connections; (ii) Reduction of 20% in Travelling Allowance and Daily Allowances in respect of both domestic and international travel in 1992-93; and (iii) A review of staffing requirements with a view to identify and surrendering of posts.

(b) No reduction in or reversion of personnel belonging to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes has been effected.

(c) Does not arise.

**[Translation]**

**Closure of Sugar Mills in U.P. and Bihar**

\*20 SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which have started producing sugar during the current season;

(b) the total number of sugar mills lying in closed in these States at present and remedial steps taken to reopen these mills; and

(c) the target of sugar production fixed for the current crushing season in the country and the targets fixed for Uttar Pradesh and Bihar separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GUGOI): (a) and (b). Out of 105 installed sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh and 30 sugar factories in Bihar, 104 sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh and 25 sugar factories in Bihar as per available information, have commenced crushing operations during 1991-92 season so far. One sugar factory in Uttar Pradesh and 5 in Bihar have not yet commenced production. The State Governments have been requested to take appropriate remedial steps to ensure early re-opening of these factories.

(c) The Committee constituted to formulate development programme for sugar industries fixed the target of the sugar production for 1991-92 season at 120.66 lakh tonnes for the country. No State-wise break-up of this target was fixed.