

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MALLIKARJUN):

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The current market position is not conducive to raising bonds immediately. It is hoped that the position will improve in near future and the Railways will be able to mobilise resources from the market. Nevertheless, an Action Plan has been launched on all the zonal railways to augment earnings and reduce working expenses so as to generate additional resources internally.

(c) and (d). Out of the annual plan size of Rs. 5, 700 cr, the estimated Capital outlay is Rs. 3, 125 cr. and its major components are Rolling Stock, Gauge Conversion, Electrification and Workshops. The Railways hope to meet their annual plan targets.

Destruction of Corals

*506. SHRI B. AKBER PASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether corals are being indiscriminately destroyed in Andaman & Nicobar Islands and coral pieces transported to the mainland;

(b) the number of bags of red corals seized recently by the Wild Life Officers in Great Nicobar Island;

(c) the action taken against the persons found guilty;

(d) the reasons for not checking such annihilation of marine fauna; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to prepare management action plan and to constitute setting committee at the Union Territory level to ensure conservation of

corals from over exploration and preservation of fauna of marine eco-system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Under the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Fisheries Regulations read with the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Shell Fishing Rules, 1978, there is a total ban on the collection and destruction of corals in the islands.

(b) to (d). About 200 kilogrammes of Red Corals were seized by Forest Department officials on 7.4.92 and 8.6.92. No action could be taken against the offenders as they could not be identified. With a view to prevent and check recurrence of such incidents in future, patrolling in the coral-rich areas has been intensified and check posts have been set up.

(e) Management action plan for the conservation and effective management of corals in the islands is being finalised and a Steering Committee has also been constituted.

New Loco Workshops

*507. SHRIRAM SINGH KASHWAN:
PROF. RITA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish new loco workshops during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the names of places, nature of workshops and funds allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the details of workshops likely to be completed and commissioned during 1992-93?