

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) to (c) : Reservation in promotion is available within Group 'A' in respect of promotion by seniority subject to fitness and in promotion by selection upto the lowest rung of Group 'A'. Besides, for posts carrying a scale of pay upto Rs.5700 in Group 'A' a concession is available such that the SCs/STs officers, who are senior enough in the zone of consideration for promotion so as to be within the number of vacancies for which the select list has to be drawn, would be included in that list provided they are not considered unfit for promotion. Orders already exist on the subject.

#### Expansion of Railway Network

1494. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal have forwarded some proposals to the Government for expansion of Railway network in Cooch Behar District; and

(b) if so, the response of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Konkan Railway Corporation

1495. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the dates on which the meeting of the Enquiry Committee of the Members of Parliament on Konkan Railway Corporation were held since its appointment;

(b) whether Report of the Committee is received by the Ministry;

(c) if so, the important features of the report ; and

(d) if not, the date by which the report is expected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) The meetings of the Enquiry Committee of the Members of Parliament on Konkan Railway have been held on 2.8.95, 23.8.95, 4 & 5.9.95 and 5.10.95 so far. The Committee also inspected the section from 26.9.90 to 30.9.95

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The report is still awaited from the Committee.

#### Calcutta Metro Railway

1496. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of the Calcutta Metro Railway Project has overshot;

(b) if so, the details of the amount thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Original estimate cost = Rs. 140.30 crores.

(ii) Present sanctioned estimate cost = Rs. 1562.68 crores.

(c) Due to time overrun on account of the following main reasons and consequent escalation in cost :

- (i) Inadequate availability of funds during the initial stage of the project.
- (ii) Delay by the state government in acquisition of land.
- (iii) Labour problems.
- (iv) Set-back due to road traffic blocks delay by local authorities relocation of uncharted underground utilities, like water pipes, sewer lines, electric / telephone cables etc.

[*Translation*]

#### Metro Rail Scheme

1497. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any negotiation was made in Delhi in regard to the Capital Metro Rail Scheme with the Japanese Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Transport Ministry of Japan;

(b) if so, the matters which were discussed during the negotiation;

(c) the details of the assistance to be provided for this transport project by Japan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI R.K. DHAWAN) : (a) and (b) The Japanese Vice Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Transport called on the Urban Development Minister on 24.10.1995. This was primarily a courtesy visit. However, during the course of the meeting, the fact of seeking OECF loan assistance for the Delhi MRTS project was mentioned to the visiting dignitary, who promised necessary cooperation from the Japanese Government side in this regard.

(c) Details of the assistance to be provided by the OECF for the Delhi MRTS project will be known only after the proposed Techno-Financial Appraisal of the project by the OECF Technical Team during December, 1995 - February, 1996 is over and thereafter the matter is considered further by the OECF / Govt. of Japan.

[*English*]

#### Railway Land

1498. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of Railway Land in each state which is available for commercial exploitation; and

(b) the details of the plan for such exploitation of Railway Land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) and (b) All Railway land is required for Railway's own operational and related uses. The Railway's proposal is not for commercial exploitation of railway land as such, but for the utilisation of the airspace over railway land / buildings.

#### Coir Research Centre

1499. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to

develop the Coir Research Centre in Kalavoor, Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES.) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The central Coir Research Institute Kalavoor is equipped with adequate facilities for undertaking research and development activities to improve the quality of coir products, the working condition of coir workers and find new uses of coir. Any proposal as and when received for development of coir research centre will be considered by the Government.

#### Conference of Directors / Liquidators

1500. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any All-India Conference of the Regional Directors and the official Liquidators was held in June, 1994 and afterwards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decisions taken in each Conference;

(d) whether some of such decisions have since been implemented;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI. H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (f) An All-India Conference of the Regional Directors and the official Liquidators was held in Bangalore in June, 1994. This was followed up by another such conference which was held in Bangalore in September 1995. The important decisions, taken at these conferences, *inter-alia*, were :

(a) In the conference held in June, 1994, a target for dissolution of 300 companies during the year 1994-95 was fixed. During the year 1994-95, however 104 companies were dissolved. During the conference held in September, 1995, the target for dissolution of companies during 1995-96 has been fixed at 235.

(b) In both the conferences it was discussed that realisation of debts, sale of assets and declaration and payment of dividends would be expedited. Both conferences have also reviewed the need to bring maintenance and filing of accounts up-to-date. These activities are monitored from time to time.

(c) In the context of the provision for panels of professional liquidators, it was decided in the first conference that a study of the procedures in the United Kingdom would be undertaken and that a committee would be formed to formulate guidelines for preparing panels of professional liquidators, for each High Court. A study team visited U.K. in October / November, 1994 to study insolvency procedures. This subject was also discussed in the Second Conference. However, the proposal regarding panels of professional liquidators can be implemented only after the amendment of the Companies Act, 1956.

Similarly, the provisions regarding panel of registered auctioneers and agents, which were discussed in the Second Conference, can be implemented only after the amendment of the Companies Act 1956.

#### Railway Reservation Office

1501. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any demand for opening of computer booking / Rail Reservation Office at Cooch Behar Railway Station in the West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which a Railway Reservation Office is likely to be provided at Cooch Behar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The General Secretary of Cooch Behar Nagrik Samiti has requested for provision of Computerised reservation facilities at Cooch Behar Station.

(c) and (d) Computerised reservation facilities have already been provided during 1995 at New Cooch Behar Station. Therefore, it is not proposed to open an additional computerised reservation office at Cooch Behar at present as the present load of reservation related transactions is quite low.

#### Uneconomic Lines

1502. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the Uneconomic Lines;

(b) whether the Government proposed to privatise those lines; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Supply of Cryogenic Engines

1503. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the government has been drawn to the news item captioned " Russians Crying off Cryogenic deal" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated November 21, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As per the agreement with M/s. Glavkosmos, Russia, the first flight worthy cryogenic stage (including engine) is expected to be delivered by last quarter of 1996. The remaining six cryogenic stages will be supplied at intervals of six months thereafter. Totally seven cryogenic