

**Unauthorised Parking Lots**

2607. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of unauthorised parking lots under the control of DDA in Delhi;
- (b) the action taken by the DDA to replace them by authorised parking lots; and
- (c) the time by which the task is proposed to be accomplished ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI R K DHAWAN) : (a) Nil.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

**Pak Firing**

2608. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :  
DR. AMRIJLAL KALIDAS PATEL :  
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Pak firing on Indian positions" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the October 30, 1995;
- (b) if so, whether Pakistani troops resorted to indiscriminate firing on Indian positions from across the border;
- (c) whether any befitting reply was given by Indian troops; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE-RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Firing along the LOC is a recurring phenomenon. A befitting response is given by the Indian troops in all incidents. However, our response is to ensure that the incident remains localised, there is no unnecessary escalation of the situation and our own casualties are minimised.

**Tourist Trains**

2609. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :  
SHRI R SURENDER REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any concrete measures in regard to operation of Tourist Trains on four tourist circuits approved by the Government has been worked out; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) and (b). In response to a global invitation to bid issued in May, 1994, the Ministry of Railways have awarded contracts to private sector companies for ownership, marketing and management of tourist trains on the following circuits:

Circuit	Name of the Company
(1) Delhi-Jaipur-Agra -Gwalior- Jhansi (Khajuraho)- Varanasi- Lucknow-Delhi.	(1) M/s Sterling Holiday Resorts (India) Pvt. Ltd., Madras.
(2) Bombay- Aurangabad (Ajanta/ Ellora)- Nanded- Secunderabad- Hyderabad-Pune- Bombay.	(2) M/s Patil Group, Secunderabad.
(3) Goa(Madgaon)- Mangalore-Mysore (Belur/Halebid)- Hospet(Hampi) Bangalore-Goa (Madgaon).	(3) M/s East West Travels & Trade Links Ltd., New Delhi.
(4) Bangalore-Mysore- Madras Kodaikanal Road-Kanniyakumari- Trivandrum-Cochin- Mettupalayam (Ooty)-Bangalore. (2 trains)	(4) M/s Sterling Holiday Resorts(India) Pvt. Ltd., Madras. and (5) M/s. Patil Group, Secunderabad.

Letters of intent have already been issued to the successful bidders. Lead time for introduction of above services will be one year from the date of execution of Agreement, currently under finalisation, between Indian Railways and the Tourist Train Operators.

**Metro Railway Calcutta**

2610. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has decided to hand over Metro Railway, Calcutta to a Corporation; and
- (b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) and (b). Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment is now the nodal Ministry for planning and development of urban transport systems including rail-based ones like Calcutta Metro. Since that Ministry does not have necessary