

facts and figures before being forwarded to the Secretariat of the Public Accounts Committee. A gist of the Action Taken Note of given below :

(a) While there was reduced demand for certain types of ammunition from the Army in early 1990s due to phasing out of some types of equipment, development of propellant of new types of ammunition has since been completed and their manufacture has been undertaken in the past two years. In 1994-95, 91 percent of the planned peace time production level was achieved.

(b) From 1993-94 there has been a steady increase in manpower utilisation in terms of standard manhours.

(c) Inventory holdings have been brought down to the level of 4-5 months of production.

(d) Consequent on increase in workload, the proportion of overhead expenditure to the cost of production has come down from 1993-94.

(e) Full capacity of ball powder plant is expected to be restored in 1995-96. The delay is primarily because of an effort to indigenise the plant instead of making its import at a high price.

[English]

T.B. Among Army Personnel

3728. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the curative/preventive measures taken in recent past to control T.B. among the Army Personnel in the country; and

(b) the details thereof and the extent to which these measures have been successful?

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) The Armed Forces Personnel, on Clinical suspicion of T.B., are subjected to detailed investigations. On confirmation, they are treated at specialised centres and periodic review of such cases is carried out thereafter.

(b) Armed Forces Personnel are subjected to half yearly medical examinations. All suspected cases are further investigated and modern treatment for cure of T.B. is given. BCG vaccination is administered to all children of service personnel along with other vaccines for preventable diseases as per National Policy. Health education on T.B. is also imparted to service personnel by medical and para medical staff. The incidence of T.B. among Armed Forces Personnel has registered a decline in the recent past.

[Translation]

Prices of Food Items

3729. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that food-items are being supplied at higher rates in the trains; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide food-items at the subsidised rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Food in the trains is provided as per tariff prescribed by the Railways.

(b) Does not arise.

Electrification of Railway Line

3730. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the annual targets for the Electrification of the Railway Lines have not been achieved during the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to achieve these targets;

(c) the annual target (original and revised) fixed for the electrification of railway lines during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the actual achievement during this period, year-wise; and

(d) the extent to which the delay and escalation in cost of projects have taken in achieving the prescribed targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) to (c). During the VII Five Year Plan 2812 route kilometre were electrified against a target of 3400 route kilometre. The reason for the shortfall was non-availability of adequate funds from budgetary support.

In the VIII Five Year Plan, electrification of 2700 route kilometre is targetted. During the first 3 years of the Plan the target fixed and route kilometre electrified are as under :

Year	Target	Achievement
1992-93	500	479
1993-94	500	505
1994-95	500	473

Thus 1457 route kilometre have been electrified from 1.4.1992 to 31.3.1995.