

Women Pilots

*34. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) total number of women pilots in the Indian Air Force at present;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to induct women fighter pilots in the Indian Air Force;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

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 total number of women pilots in the IAF at present is twenty one. Ten more are undergoing precommission training.

(b) There is no proposal at present to induct women fighter pilots into the IAF.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Three Phase Electric Locomotives

*35. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether three phase electric locomotive has been tested recently to prevent the train accidents;
- (b) if so, the results of the test;
- (c) whether the test has been successful;
- (d) if so, the time by which the production of "three phase electric locomotive" is likely to be started; and
- (e) the estimated cost to be incurred on its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) No, Sir. But the three phase locomotive is being tested to check whether their performance meets the design.

(b) and (c). The tests are still on and expected to be completed shortly.

(d) The series manufacture of three phase drive electric locomotives at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works has been planned to be started in 1996-97.

(e) The cost of indigenously manufactured locomotives is expected to be of the order of Rs. 6.50 crores.

Pending Dues

*36. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Railway's amount outstanding against State Electricity Boards has increased;
- (b) the total outstanding amount in 1995 and the total increase registered so far in 1996;
- (c) the reasons for so much increase in the outstanding amount of Railways; and
- (d) the efforts made by Railways for recovery of the outstanding amount?

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

(b) March, 1995	Rs. 831.09 Crores.
December, 1995	Rs. 1088.45 Crores.
Increase of	Rs. 257.36 Crores.

(c) Non-payment by State Electricity Boards/Power Houses specifically National Thermal Power Corporation Badarpur and other units of National Thermal Power Corporation and Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking. The increase on account of these two units is Rs. 193.19 Crores.

(d) Following efforts are being made to recover the outstanding dues :-

- (i) State Electricity Boards/Power Houses are being repeatedly requested to clear the dues. Ministry of Finance had decided to recover an amount of Rs. 308.05 crores from Central Plan Assistance (except Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking and National Thermal Power Corporation). Compulsory payment of freight has been enforced on the Power Houses of Gujarat and Haryana State Electricity Boards.
- (ii) To discourage State Electricity Boards from booking coal consignment on 'To Pay' basis, surcharge has been enhanced from 10% to 15% w.e.f. 15.01.1995.
- (iii) Besides this, adjustment against traction bills of U.P. State Electricity Board and Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking is also being done to minimise outstanding dues.
- (iv) Recently the matter has been referred to Ministry of Power, Finance and Chief Minister/ Delhi for recovery of outstandings.

Village Education Committees

*37. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the main objective of setting up of Village Education Committees in the States;