

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

(b) Senior citizens aged 65 years and above are presently eligible for 25% rail concession in Second/Sleeper classes for journeys covering 500 kms and more. The above concessions has now been made applicable without any distance restriction.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Age Care India, a registered society, had made the following requests :-

- (i) enhancement of the concession from 25% to 50%.
- (ii) Extension to all classes.
- (iii) Revision of the age limit from 65 to 60 years and

(iv) Removal of the distance restriction.

(e) Removal of distance restriction.

#### Gauge Conversion

312. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the current position of the progress made in different projects of Gauge Conversion;

(b) whether the targets set for Eighth Five Year Plan so far have been achieved by the Railways; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) The details are as under :-

#### STATEMENT

No.	Name of the Section	Kms	Cost in Crs.	Progress
1.	Parasia-Chhindwara	29	24	The work is nearing completion and will be commissioned within the financial year 95-96.
2.	Miraj-Latur	259	225	The work has been taken up between Kurduwadi and Pandharpur. Between Kurduwadi-Latur and Latur-Latur Road new line portion will be completed in a phased manner over the coming years.
3.	Jodhpur-Marwar	100	58	Work is being taken up under BOLT scheme and is expected to be completed in 1996-97.
4.	Chhapra-Aunrihar	171	83	The work is being progressed at a fast pace and would be completed by 31.3.96.
5.	Kashipur-Lalkuan	60	45	The work is temporarily forzen.
6.	Sagauli-Narkatiaganj	59	42	Earthwork has already been completed. Work on 27 bridges out of 65 has been completed. The work is planned for completion by March '97.
7.	Narkatiaganj-Valmikinagar	50	40	55% of earthwork has been completed. Yard plans have been finalised and bridge drawings are under preparation. About 15000 cums of ballast has also been collected. The work will be completed in 97-98.
8.	Khadda-Gorakhpur	86	45	Yard plans and bridge drawings are under preparation. Tenders for earth work and bridge work have been finalised. Earthwork has been started. The work will be completed during 97-98.
9.	Mau-Shahganj	99	38.70	Work is making good progress. The section is targetted to be completed in 96-97.
10.	Lumding-Dibrugarh with	628	317	Lumding-Dimapur is already linked lines commissioned. Dimapur-Furkating will be completed by 31.3.96 and Furkating-Dibrugarh and Tinsukia-Lekhapani in 96-97. Other linked fingers will be completed in 97-98.

No.	Name of the Section	Kms	Cost in Crs.	Progress
11.	Madras-Trichy-Dindigul	433	373	Madras-Tambaram-Completed. Work on long lead items is in progress on the rest of the section which is planned for completion in 97-98.
12.	Arasikere-Hassan-Mangalore	236	186	Work is in Progress. Arasikere-Hassan will be completed in 96-97 and the rest of the section is planned for completion in 97-98.
13.	Yelahanka-Bangarpet	62	26	Yellahanka-Chickballapur has been completed and commissioned. Bangarpet-Kollar will be opened in 97-98. The work on phase-II i.e. Kollar-Chickballapur will be taken up and completed in IX Plan period.
14.	Guntur-Guntakal	458	226	Guntur-Guntakal completed. Work is in progress in rest of the section. Giddalur to Nandyal is nearing completion and will be commissioned in March' 96. For rest of the section from Nandyal to Guntakal target date is 96-97.
15.	Secunderabad-Dronachalam	331	226	Secunderabad-Mehboobnagar-completed. Mehboobnagar-Kurnool-Dronachalam work is in progress and is expected to be completed in 96-97.
16.	Parbhani-Mudkhed-Adilabad	162	108	Parbanu-Nanded-Mudkhed completed. Work on Mudkhed-Adilabad is being taken up and is expected to be completed in 96-97.
17.	Solapur-Hotgi Gadag	300	180	Work has been taken up Hotgi-Bijapur work will be completed in 96-97. Rest of the section is planned for completion in 97-98.
18.	Katpadi-Tirupati	104	63	Work has been taken up long lead items and is planned for completion in 97-98.
19.	Hospet-Goa	489	378	Hospet-Castle Rock-completed. Rest of the section will be completed in 96-98.
20.	Gondia-Chanda Fort	242	158	Gondia-Wadsa already completed Wadsa-Nagbid will be completed in 96-97 and rest of the section by 31.12.96.
21.	Bhildi-Viramgam	157	155	Work temporarily frozen except on Viramgam-Mehsana (65kms) for which Target Date 31.12.96.
22.	Delhi-Ahmedabad	904	750	Delhi-Ajmer & Mehsana to Ahmedabad-completed. Mehsana-Ajmer work is in progress and will be completed in 96-97.
23.	Neemuch-Ratlam	135	65	Work taken up on long lead items. The section is planned for completion in IX plan.
24.	Rajkot-Varaval	185	100	Work is being taken up shortly and is planned to be completed in IX plan.
25.	Agra-Bandikuli	151	89	Work is being taken up under BOLT and is expected to be completed in 96-97.
26.	Wankaner-Maliya-Miyana	90	51	-do-
27.	Trichy-Nagore-Karaikal	200	100	Earthwork, Bridges and ballasting work has been taken up. The work is expected to be completed in 97-98.
28.	Yeshwantpur-Salem	197	140	Yashwantpur-Hosur will be completed by 31.3.96 and rest of the section will be completed in 96-97.
29.	Mathura-Achnera	35	20	Work is being taken up and will be completed in 96-97.

(b) and (c). Against the target of 6000 kms for 8th Plan, 5092 kms have already been converted. Another 469 kms will be converted during the remaining part of 1995-96. Target for 1996-97, the financial year of 8th Five Year Plan is 1600 kms. Thus, the 8th Plan target will be exceeded considerably.

#### Sale of Globes in Book Fair

313. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the globes imported from Taiwan were being sold openly in the Book Fair organised in Delhi in which the international borders of India have been shown as disputed;

(b) if so, whether the Govt. are considering to take for banning the sale of such globes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Delhi Rent Control Act

314. SHRI TARA SINGH :

DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to make amendments in Delhi Rent Control Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Act is likely to be notified implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA) : (a) to (c). An All-Party Committee appointed by the Chief Minister, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has proposed certain modifications to the Delhi Rent Act, 1995. The proposals relate primarily to the provisions relating to deemed rent, registration of tenancies, inheritability of tenancies, evictions, etc. The said proposals are under the consideration of Government. The Act will be brought into force subject to the final decision in the matter. It is not possible to indicate a definite time frame for the same at present.

#### J & K Assembly Election

315. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNTHRAO GUNDEWAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to hold early assembly and local bodies elections simultaneously with Lok Sabha elections in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any package has been chalked out by the Union Government and political parties of the State for restoration of peace and normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard and implemented ?

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) to (e). In its attempts to restore democratic and representative institutions in the State of Jammu & Kashmir at the earliest, the Government has been holding consultations with leaders of various political parties and groups at the national level and from the State. On 4th November, 1995, the Prime Minister made a statement which inter alia reiterated the commitment of the Government to preserve the special Constitutional status of Jammu and Kashmir, its willingness to strengthen the autonomy of the State, within the Constitution, keeping in view the aspiration of the people of the entire State, and restoration of the nomenclatures of 'Wazir-e-Azam' and 'Sadar-e-Riyasat' and the plans of the Government to formulate additional financial and development benefits for the State.

2. After considering all aspects of the situation, the Government had, in November 1995, recommended to the Election Commission to initiate steps for conducting elections in the State. However, the Election Commission did not agree with the recommendation. In the meanwhile, the Government has continued to make intensive efforts to further consolidate the situation towards its earlier stated objective. In this process, the Government has held further discussions with the Election Commission and with the leaders of various political parties and groups from the State. An appropriate decision will be taken in due course.

#### National Commission for Women

316. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :