

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the work is likely to be commenced?

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

(b) to (d). The details of the surveys which have been taken up in the Hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh to link various religious places are as under :-

- (i) Rishikesh-Dehradun (30 Kms.)
- (ii) Haridwar-Ramnagar via Kotdwar (125 Kms.)
- (iii) Muzaffarnagar-Haridwar Via Roorkee (95 Kms.)
- (vi) Rishikesh-Karanparyag (185 Kms.)
- (v) Chandigarh-Dehradun Via Paonta Sahib (220 Kms.)
- (vi) Kiccha-Sitargajn-Nanakmata-Khatema (55 Kms.)
- (vii) Tanakpur-Purnagiri (15 Kms.)

(e) Further consideration of the projects would be possible once the survey reports become available.

[English]

Bongaon-Petrapole Railway Line

989. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since decided to construct the Bongaon-Petrapole Railway Line in the Sealdah-Bongaon Section of the Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the specific steps taken in that direction;

(c) whether the Government have already taken up the matter of linking up Petrapole with Benapole with the Government of Bangladesh to establish direct Railway link between the two countries; and

(d) if so, the response of Bangladesh thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). A preliminary Engg.-cum-Traffic Survey for restoration of Bongaon-Petrapole has been taken up by the Railways.

The issue has also been taken up with Govt. of Bangladesh but no clearcut response has been received.

[Translation]

Criteria Adopted for Organising Light and Sound Shows

990. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted by the India Tourism Development Corporation for organising 'Light and Sound Shows' at ancient historical monuments;

(b) the expenditure incurred in organising the shows during each of the last three years; and

(c) the number of such monuments selected in Uttar Pradesh alongwith the details of income and expenditure incurred in organising such shows?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) Presently ITDC is operating there Son-et-Lumiere (SEL) Shows at Red Fort, New Delhi, Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad, Shalimar Garden, Srinagar. All these shows were mounted by the Department of Tourism, Govt. of India. The SEL Show at Red Fort Delhi was subsequently purchased by ITDC from Department of Tourism. The other two shows at Ahmedabad & Srinagar are being operated by ITDC on behalf of the Department of Tourism. ITDC has not formulated any guidelines for organising Light & Sound Show at ancient historical monuments. Nevertheless the Deptt. of Tourism extends financial assistance to State Govts. to set up SEL shows, under the guidelines of the scheme.

(b) The details of the expenditure incurred by ITDC during last three years on organising the aforesaid shows being operated by it are given below :

S.No.	Name/Place of Sound & Light Show	Expenditure in Rs. Lakhs		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Red Fort, Delhi	13.34	19.02	17.37
2.	Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad	4.26	5.64	5.31
3.	Shalimar Garden, Srinagar	2.59*	3.01*	4.10*

*Not in operation. Expenditure relates to maintenance only.

(c) ITDC is not organising/operating any Sound & Light Show in Uttar Pradesh. The question of income and expenditure therefore does not arise.

[English]

Airways Network

991. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the airways network for the North-East sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). The Government have constituted a Committee comprising one member of Parliament from each of the 7 States in North East and Sikkim, representatives of private airlines, Indian Airlines, Alliance Air, Chairman, Airports Authority of India and Director General of Civil Aviation as convener

to review the operation of air transport service in the North East and suggest improvement in the airports of the region. The first meeting of the Committee has already been held on 4.10.96.

Lanjigarh-Junagarh Railway Line

992. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the budgetary allocation made for completion of the construction of Lanjigarh-Junagarh railway line during the current financial year;

(b) whether the Government was requested to raise the allocation during the Budget Session;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(e) the amount actually released so far for the purpose during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Rs. 1 cr.

(b) and (c) Demands were made by various MPs in this regard during discussion.

(d) Land acquisition has been taken up and work has commenced on a short stretch of land at Bhawanipatna which Orissa Govt. has made available so far. However, this line was approved by the Planning Commission to serve the proposed Alumina Plants which were to come up in the area. The Alumina Plants are now coming up elsewhere, as such, Planning Commission have been requested to clear the construction of this line as a developmental project. The question of allotting additional funds to this work would be considered once their clearance is received.

(e) Rs. 1 cr.

Dispute on Duty Free Shops at International Airports

993. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has sought the Government's permission to approach 'Courts of Law' against the Airport Authority of India (AAI) over a dispute on duty-free shops at international airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to resolve the dispute between ITDC and AAI amicably?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. ITDC sought Government's permission to approach Court of Law against the Airport Authority of India (AAI) over a dispute on the process of allotting additional space for operating Duty Free

Shops at India's five International Airports. Having regard to the fact that the issues involved in the dispute would require an adjudication by the court, the Govt. has permitted ITDC Ltd. to approach the Court of Law for the legal remedies.

Geological Survey of India

994. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has recently discovered a huge deposits of minerals including some precious stones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise; and

(c) the action plan worked out for exploration of the same, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). Geological Survey of India (GSI) has recently discovered deposits of minerals which include precious stone (diamond) in the country. The significant additional mineral resources established during last three years include :

State	Minerals
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	- Coal, Gold ore, 170 tonnes of Kimberlite material has yielded 120 pieces of diamond weighing 13.65 carats and about 225 tonnes of colluvial material yielding 13 diamonds weighing 2.65 carats.
2. Bihar	- Coal, 0.43 million tonnes of Copper-Lead-Zinc ore with 9.93% total metal content, Gold Ore.
3. Madhya Pradesh	- Coal, 7.38 metre thick of ore zone having 1.66% Copper content and 8.6% Zinc, Gold Ore, 2.17 million tonne of medium grade manganese Ore, Kimberlite pipes.
4. Maharashtra	- Coal, 0.7 million tonne of ore with 1.2% Copper, Gold Ore.
5. Orissa	- Coal, Gold Ore.
6. West Bengal	- Coal
7. Tamil Nadu	- Lignite, 3.38 million tonnes (0.05% to 0.116% Mo) of Molybdenum Ore.