

Position :

The existing maintenance facilities are adequate for the normal level of traffic handled at the station. It would not be viable to create duplicate facilities simply to handle the traffic during any bundhs in Assam.

Demand No. 6

Introduction of a new train from New Coochbehar to Calcutta

At present, there is no proposal to introduce a new train between Calcutta and New Coochbehar.

Modification in VRS

940. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modify the Voluntary Retirement Scheme for public sector as reported in the 'Times of India' dated November 7, 1996;

(b) if so, the details of changes and the financial provision made for execution of the scheme; and

(c) the tentative time schedule for execution of the modified VRS and estimated number of workers proposed to be covered, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Government are considering a proposal to modify the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) so that it may become more attractive.

(b) and (c). Do not arise as this proposal has not been examined fully by the Government.

Composition of Committees

941. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Programme Advisory Committees attached to AIR/Doordarshan Kendras are due for reconstitution;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard;

(c) the details of other Advisory Committees under the Ministry on which non-official/outstanding professional/prominent social activists mediemen are nominated;

(d) whether the Government have finalised composition of such committees for selection of films for Doordarshan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The term of the existing committees is upto April, 1997.

(c) This Ministry has no other Advisory Committee.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. The list of persons approved for appointment as non-official members in the selection committee for selection of films for Doordarshan is given in the *Statement* enclosed.

STATEMENT

List of Persons approved by the Government for appointment as non-official Members in the Selection Committee for feature films

1. Shri Shailendra Shankar	Former DG: Doordarshan, Associated with Films and Society movement.
2. Shri K.C. Sharma	Former DG: AIR, an eminent Author Media Critic.
3. Ms. Sundari Sridharani	Director, Triveni Kala Sangam.
4. Smt. Indu Jain	Poetess
5. Ms. Ranjana Gauhar	Dancer
6. Shri Kamal Bhasin	3-A, (18 Flats), Friends Colony, New Delhi-110065.
7. Ms. Usha Joshi	Arts and Culture
8. Miss Kumkum Chadha	Writer and Journalist
9. Shri Idris Dehlvi	Film Journalist, Editor 'Sushma'
10. Shri M.N. Roy Choudhury	Former Dy. Director General, AIR
11. Smt. Gayatri Roy	Social worker
12. Shri Jag Mohan	Journalist, author, art critic and filmologist.
13. Shri Raghunath Raina	Former Director, Film Festival and News Services Division of AIR.
14. Shri Mohd. Shamim	Special Correspondent, Times of India, also a Film Critic
15. Smt. Vijaya Mule	Eminent Educationalist, Film-maker and media person.
16. Shri Gautam Kaul	Leading Film Critic and closely associated with film society movement.

17. Shri Pankaj Bhatia	Journalist, Writer and Eminent Film-Critic.
18. Shri G.S. Khosla	Play-writer and Theatre Director.
19. Smt. Meenakshi	Department of Music and Fine Arts, Delhi University.
20. Shri Mani Madhukar	Writer, Director
21. Shri Brijendra Rahi	Writer, Director.
22. Shri D.P. Ray	Writer, Social Worker
23. Shri Rajendra Bagordia	Writer
24. Shri Ajay Koshish	Film Critic, Writer
25. Mrs. Padma Sachdev	Film Critic, Writer
26. Shri G.K. Dhawan	Film Critic, Writer
27. Shri Vinod Dua	Eminent Media person
28. Mrs. Jayashree Sathe	Literature
29. Mrs. Joy Michael	English Theatre
30. Mr. Barry John	English Theatre
31. Mrs. Vijay Daksh	Social Worker 220, Prakash Nagar, Rly. Road, Khurja, U.P.
32. Mr. Ved Pratap Vaidik	Chief of PTI Bhasha, Delhi.
33. Shri Keshav Kothari	Secretary, Sangeet Natak Academy
34. Dr. Satish Chandra	Eminent Educationist.
35. Mrs. Tara Ali Beg	Social Worker
36. Prof. Indra Nath Choudhuri	Secretary, Sahitya Academy.
37. Mrs. Deepa Kaul	Social Worker.

[Translation]

Telecommunication Circle

942. SHRI SHRI RAM CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme is under consideration for opening of new telecommunications circle offices in the country;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any scheme to increase the number of telephone connections at Basti Town;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) As per the policy of the Department of Telecom. Circle Offices are generally opened at the State capitals subject to adequate workload. There is no justification for opening of any new Circle office.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) There is a proposal to add a capacity of 1000 lines for Basti Town during the year 1996-97.

(f) Question does not arise.

[English]

Integrated Plan for Promotion of Tourism

943. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating an integrated plan for promotion of tourism;

(b) if so, the details of the plan;

(c) whether such plan may attract the domestic tourists and foreign tourists;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the implementation of such plan will be beneficial for the tourism industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA):

(a) to (f). A National strategy for the Development of tourism in the country including Domestic and foreign Tourism has been drawn up and the specific components of plan are :

1. Infrastructure development
2. Product development and diversification including development of Mega tourism resorts.
3. Entrepreneurship development and promotion of self employment opportunities.
4. Enhanced tourist facilitation
5. Human Resources development
6. Research and computerisation
7. Promotion and Marketing.
8. Environmental protection and cultural preservation.
9. Provision of incentives.
10. Monitoring and Evaluation.
11. Strengthening of Organisation.

The implementation of the plan target 5 million Foreign Tourists by the turn of the century and envisages