

(a) what are the projects undertaken by the National Thermal Power Corporation in the country and in foreign countries, if any ;

(b) what is the number of Indian manpower engaged in each project ;

(c) whether reservation policy for Appointment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is implemented by the Corporation ; and

(d) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees as on 1 April, 1985 and the labourers, if any, sent abroad belonging to these communities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation has not taken up by any project in a foreign country. The details regarding the sanctioned projects undertaken by NTPC in India and the manpower engaged in these projects are given in the statement attached.

(c) According to NTPC the reservation policy is being followed by the Corporation.

(d) The total number of SC and ST employees in NTPC on 1.1.1985 was 1210 and 501 respectively.

Statement

Name of sanctioned Projects	No. of persons directly employed by NTPC.	No. of persons employed by various contracting agencies.
Singrauli	2,327	6,418
Korba	2,245	10,000
Ramagundam	1,616	5,000
Farakka	894	4,000
Rihand Stage-I	337	7,505
Vindhyachal Stage-I	511	4,507
Transmission Lines	624	962

Improvement and Widening of National Highways in Rajasthan

5041. SHRI LALA RAM KEN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the main cause of road accidents on all National Highways passing through Rajasthan is that these highways are less wide ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these National Highways are in dilapidated condition and no special attention has been paid towards them for a long time ;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to pay special attention to improve the condition of these National Highways and to widen them ; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. These National Highways are in a traffic worthy condition. The condition of the National Highway system is constantly under review. Improvement works are being sanctioned according to the requirement of traffic within the available resources.

(c) and (d) During 1985-86 estimates for widening and strengthening are proposed to be sanctioned for an aggregated length of about 146 kms.

**Proposal for conversion of Railways,
Production units into public
undertakings**

5042. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways have evaluated the advantages and disadvantages of the proposals for conversion of the Railways' Production Units into Public Undertakings ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the result of findings ; and

(c) whether the Ministry of Railways are contemplating to grant administrative and financial autonomy to any of the Railway Production Units to make it function effectively on business lines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (c)
The advantages and disadvantages for the conversion of Railway's Production Units into Public Sector Undertakings are being studied by an Inter-Ministerial Committee.

(b) The findings of the Committee have not been received so far.

**Modern Station Building opposite to Mel
Maruvathur Athi Parasakthi Temple
(Tamil Nadu)**

5043. SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to locate a modern station building with crossing station facilities opposite to Mel Maruvathur Athi Parasakthi Temple in Tamil Nadu (chingleput Division) ;

(b) if so, when this work is likely to be taken ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) From operational point of view there is no need for a crossing station at this point. However, construction of a halt station is sanctioned at this location on the request of Athi Parasakthi Medical Educational and Cultural Trust, Mel Maruvathur. Part of the work such as earthwork for platform and approach road etc. is to be done by the Trust. Work has been taken up.

Shortage of wagons

5044. SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Railways are in shortage of 1,45,000 wagons to cope with the demand of goods traffic ; and

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to allot necessary funds to set up Wagons and wheels and Axle Plant units either by expanding the Golden Rock workshop at Hosur or Pondanur near Gandhigrammam of Ambathurai Station ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Indian Railways have approximately 5 lakh wagons. Some shortage was experienced during the last peak loading period which is about to close. Though shortage of wagons does exist, it is nowhere near 1.45 lakhs.

(b) There is sufficient capacity for manufacture of wagons in the country, particularly in the private sector. There is, therefore, no proposal to allocate any funds for augmentation of capacity for manufacture of wagons in the Golden Rock Workshop at Hosur or Pondanur.

**Connecting Central and Egmore Railway
Station in Madras City**

5045. SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :