

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT  
(SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Owing to severe resources constraint it is not possible at present to declare any new road as a National Highway in any State, including the four States mentioned.

**Suggestion to Mingle with Passengers  
Travelling in Second Class**

1601. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to a news item appearing in Hindustan Times 19-10-1985 stating that railway officials have failed to comply with the suggestion made by the Minister of State for Railway that they mingle with passenger travelling in second class and give him the feedback on their complaints ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT  
(SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no question of non-compliance by railway officers of the suggestions made by the Hon'ble Minister of State for Railways. There was, however, some time lag in the instructions percolating down and the feed-back coming from officers of all levels. Reports from senior officers were received promptly. Reports from other officers are also being received regularly now.

**Task Force for Surveillance for Aids**

1602. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Council of Medical Research has set up a Task Force to keep constant surveillance on 'High risk' group who could be affected by Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome because of contacts with foreigners ; and

(b) if so, the composition and functions of this Task Force ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The composition and functions of the Task Force are as follows :—

*Composition*

Prof. V. Ramalingaswami,

Dr. S. Sriramachari,

Brig. R.N. Datta,

Dr. K.M. Pavri,

Dr. Bhanu S. Verma,

Dr. H.M. Bhatia,

Dr. V.N. Sehgal,

Dr. A.N. Malaviya,

Dr. Eric Simoes,

Dr. N.K. Shah-SEARO, WHO  
(OBSERVER),

*Function*

The function of this Task Force is to review the present state of art on the subject and advise the Indian Council of Medical Research and the Government on appropriate research strategies for developing better methods of detection and surveillance of the disease.

**Sea-Erosion of Land at Kerala Coast**

1603. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey in the past

has been conducted about sea erosion of land at Kerala Coast ;

(b) if so, details thereof and the land lost ;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to contain sea erosion at Kerala coast ;

(d) how much money was sanctioned by the Centre during the Sixth Plan ; and

(e) out of it, how much has since been spent on it ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : (a) to (e). As per the assessment made by the Government of Kerala in the Sixties out of 560 Km. of coast line in the State, about 320 Km. was vulnerable to sea erosion. The State Government is executing a programme of construction of sea walls for protection of the vulnerable reaches since 2nd Five Year Plan and 290 Km. of coast line has been covered upto end of the Sixth Plan. The Central Government is providing central loan assistance for these works since 1972-73. During the 6th Plan (1980-85), the outlays approved and the expenditure for these works are as under :—

(Rs. in crores)

	Approved Outlays	Expenditure
State Sector	15.00	12.55
Central Sector (Loan assistance)	22.00	16.35
Total :	37.00	28.90

#### Steps to Generate more Resources for Railways

1604. SHRIMATI T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament has asked the Railway Ministry to generate more resources by optimal and efficient utilization of their existing assets and out of their own revenues by cutting down all wasteful expenditure ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Railways in this direction ; and

(c) how far these steps have resulted in generating more resources ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

The Public Accounts Committee recommended that the Railways should generate more resources by efficient utilisation of assets and cutting down wasteful expenditure.

(b) The main steps taken are :

- (i) Control over increase in staff ;
- (ii) phasing out of steam traction ;
- (iii) economy in fuel consumption.
- (iv) better inventory control.
- (v) improved assets utilisation through end to end running of freight trains.

(c) Internal component in planned investment increased from 31.44% in 1980-81 to 50.01% in 1984-85 to which the aforesaid steps have also contributed.