

pace of actual implementation varies from project to project. However the loan amount not utilised during a particular financial year does not normally lapse and would be carried forward for utilization in the subsequent years. Government have taken a number of steps to accelerate the implementation of externally aided projects and the utilisation of external assistance.

Message for Railway Reservation from Railway Board and New Delhi Railway Station

1663. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of messages/wireless messages issued by the Railway Board and New Delhi Railway Station between 1 May and 1 July, 1989 regarding reservation of onward and return rail accommodation in trains;

(b) how many of these messages were received by the addressees, with reasons for the remaining not reaching at the destination; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure the receipt of messages/wireless messages by the addressees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) During the period between 1st May, 1989 and 1st July, 1989, 92,013 messages were issued by Railway Board and I.R.C.A. Reservation Office, New Delhi, for arranging onward and return rail reservations in various trains.

(b) and (c). Nearly all the messages were delivered to the addressees. To ensure that there is no failure, the messages are sent through teleprinters/telex/morse/courier service and regular reminders are issued till such time the replies are received.

Smuggling of Electronic Items from Bangladesh

1664. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggling of VCRs, VCPs and other electronic items from Bangladesh into the country is on the increase;

(b) if so, the cases of smuggling of such items detected during the last one year; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to prevent the smuggling of these items into the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Available reports and seizures made indicate that electronic goods like VCRs, VCPs etc. continue to be sensitive to smuggling into the country from Bangladesh. However, since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not feasible to estimate the quantum of such goods being smuggled into the country at any given time.

The value of seizures of VCRs and VCPs and other electronic items effected by the West Bengal Customs Preventive Collectorate during the year 1988 and 1989 (upto June) are given in the table below:-

*Value of seizures
(Rs. in lakhs)*

<i>Year</i>	<i>V.C.Rs. and VCPs</i>	<i>Other Electronic goods</i>
1988	47.68	17.53
1989 (upto June)	201.51	95.27

(Figures are provisional)