

(c) whether Government propose to remove this difference so that the train reaches New Delhi one and a half hours early?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Operational requirements and connection.

(c) It is not feasible to reduce the journey time in Dn. direction.

[*Translation*]

Opening of more container Depots in Northern India

5073. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand to open more container depots in Northern India; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Container Corporation of India a Government of India Undertaking under the administrative control of Ministry of Railways would establish additional Inland Container Depots (ICDs) and Container Freight Stations (CFSs) at various locations in Northern India for export/import traffic during the 8th Plan period.

[*English*]

UNDP assistance to Agro-Based Pulp and Paper Industry

5074. SHRIMATIBASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed an agreement with the United Nations Development Programme for technical assistance to agro-based pulp and paper industry;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed agreement;

(c) to what extent, UNDP has agreed to provide international experts to the Central Pulp and Paper Research Institute; and

(d) the time by which the agreement is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d). Government of India have entered into an agreement with the UNDP on 12.9.1989 for assistance to non-wood based Pulp and Paper Industry in the following areas:-

- (i) Studies on refining of non-wood fibre pulps;
- (ii) Treatment of effluents;
- (iii) Solid waste reduction;
- (iv) Energy conservation; and
- (v) Reduction of water consumption.

The extant agreement envisages visit of foreign technical advisers and consultants for a total period of 40 man-months. The duration of the agreement is three years.

Refund of booking deposits by M/s Hero Honda

5075. SHRI E. S. M. PACKEER MOHMED: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints against M/s. Hero Honda regarding abnormal delay in the refund of the deposits which they have kept in the com-

pany while booking for the motorcycles,

(b) if so, the number of complaints received in this regard, and

(c) the action being contemplated by Government for earlier settlement of refund of booking deposits by the company?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) (a) to (c) There have been complaints against the company regarding delay in refund of advance money on cancellation of bookings by the customers. As per records available, about 100 complaints regarding delay in refund of advance money were received by the Department of Industrial Development, and the same were sent to the company for necessary action. Besides, during the last three years, MRTPL Commission has received about 350 complaints against the company.

The company has reported that a total sum of Rs 41.84 crores was received by them by way of advance booking deposits during the period 85-86 to 88-89 and they have refunded an amount of Rs 13.29 crores on account of cancellation of bookings.

The acceptance of advance money against bookings is considered a contractual obligation between the customers and the company. However, with a view to further safeguarding the interest of the customers, Government have issued revised guidelines for acceptance and deployment of advance money against bookings received by the automobile manufacturers.

[*Translation*]

Shortage of Benzene

5076 SHRI RAJVEER SINGH Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) the steps taken to meet the shortage of Benzene due to less production in the refineries of the Indian Oil Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited during 1989, and

(b) the details of imports made to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M S GURUPADASWAMY) (a) and (b) 10,500 tonnes of Benzene was imported in January, 1989 to meet the domestic demand. Production of Benzene was more than the demand in 1989-90 and a parcel of 3128 tonnes of Benzene was exported in February, 1990.

[*English*]

Production programme of Maruti Udyog Limited

5077 SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO
SHRI KALP NATH RAI

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether the production programme of the Maruti Udyog Limited for 1989-90 has been fulfilled,

(b) if so, the production programme of the company for 1990-91 and the next two years

(c) the type of cars/vehicles being produced now and proposed to be produced during the next two years, and

(d) the prices at which the cars/vehicles will be available to the buyers?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) (a) Maruti Udyog Limited has exceeded the production target during 1989-90 i.e. as against the target of 1,15,000