

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide modern facilities and to increase the number of beds and staff in the physiotherapy department of Sports Science Medical Centre of the Sports Authority of India in New Delhi for providing adequate facilities of Physio-therapy to the Indian Sportsmen; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANARJEE): (a) The Physiotherapy Unit having modern facilities was established by Sports Authority of India at J.N. Stadium, New Delhi, in 1985-86. The staff and the number of beds in the Unit are sufficient to provide the requisite facility of Physiotherapy to the sportspersons attending coaching/training at Delhi. There is no plan to increase the staff and the beds in the Physiotherapy Unit.

(b) Does not arise.

Kendriya Hindi Sansthan In A & N Islands

5314. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a branch of Kendriya Hindi sansthan with computer facilities in Andaman and Nicobar Islands with a view to improve the standard of teaching and training in Hindi language;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated expenditure is likely to be incurred thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Meeting Demands of Commodities to Critical and General Users

5315. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Rail sector outlay low, says plan panel" appearing in the 'Indian Express' Bombay dated May 29, 1992;

(b) whether it has been reported that during Seventh Plan period the Railways fail to meet the demand in respect of commodities to critical users and general users; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to meet the above demand during Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b). Yes, Sir.

(b) The demand for freight traffic in the Seventh Plan was originally assessed at 340 million tonnes; revised to 345-348 million tonnes in mid-term appraisal and finally carried 334.3 million tonnes. Demands of all sectors were by and large met; shortfall was on account of the lack of offering from some core sectors.

(c) Additional rolling stock and associated

traffic facility works are planned to meet target of the Eighth Plan.

Battery Powered Loco

5316. DR. RAMESHCHANDTOMAR:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a trial test of the battery powered locomotive designed by BHEL;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the comparative performance of this locomotive against steam locomotives in terms of economy and efficiency;

(c) whether there is any proposal to adopt this locomotive for halijlage on narrow-gauge tracks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Locomotive did not meet the performance requirements as specified in the tribal order on BHEL, which has since been cancelled. Under the circumstances, the question of evaluating the comparative performance of this locomotive against steam locomotives in term of economy and efficiency does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Non-Government Organisations involved in Ganga Action Plan

5317. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI
BHANDARI: Will the Minister of
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased
to state:

(a) whether the Government provides financial assistance to the Non-Government Organisations involved in the Ganga Action Plan;

(b) if so, the quantum of fund provided to these organisations during each of the last three years and for 1992-93; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a)
Financial assistance is provided to the Non-Government Organisations which participate in Public Awareness Programmes under the Ganga Action Plan.

(b) and (c). The funds released to NGOs in the last three years and for 1992-93 is given below:-

Year	Amount Released
1989-90	Rs. 22,500.00
1990-91	Rs. 3,25,629.00
1991-92	Rs. 3,34,150.00
1992-93 upto 31.7.92	Rs.68,480.00

Credit Card for Purchase of Tickets

5318. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme to accept credit cards for purchase of reserved tickets at railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the zone-wise number of stations where such