

profit making company, in existence for at least 3 years. Generally assistance is granted to voluntary organisations on the recommendations of the State Government concerned. The applications are also thoroughly scrutinized by Grant-in-aid Committees under different schemes of the Ministry. The autonomous organisations under the administrative control of this Ministry are funded through budgetary allocation and are guided by the principles enunciated in the General Financial Rules.

(b) and (c) The budgetary allocation of the Ministry is made scheme-wise. Financial assistance to different Voluntary Organisations is made on a year to year basis on merits under different schemes. The details of the schemes as well as the list of voluntary organisations receiving grants of more than Rs. 1.00 lakh per year are provided in the Annual Reports of the four Departments of this Ministry circulated to the Hon'ble Members during the Budget Session and also placed in the Parliament Library.

(d) and (e) 31 complaints have been received from other sources during the last three years out of which in 9 cases payment has been stopped. No complaints have been received through internal audit.

Ordinary Compartments

3045. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether surcharge is being charged from the passengers travelling in reserved compartments with ordinary tickets during day time whereas the reservation of sleeper starts from 8.00 p.m.; and

(b) if so, whether the ordinary ticket-holders are likely to be given the facility to travel in the reserved compartments during daytime as before so long there is shortage of ordinary compartments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Sleeper surcharge was abolished with the introduction of Sleeper Class with a separate fare structure, higher than the Second Class. Sleeper Class fare is charged irrespective of day or night journey. Sleeper Class is a fully reserved Class and Second Class passengers are permitted to travel in Sleeper Class by converting their tickets to Sleeper Class tickets subject to availability and allotment of accommodation.

[English]

Mettupalaiyam-Chamarajanagar line

3046. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a new Railway line from Mettupalaiyam to Chamarajanagar connecting Tamil Nadu and Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Public Distribution System

3047. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Government have not accepted the norms fixed by the Centre for the distribution of essential commodities under the public distribution system;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of these States; and

(c) the steps taken to adopt a uniform policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is implemented under a joint responsibility of Central and State Governments. The Central Government makes bulk allocation of PDS items to State Governments/U.T. Administrations at Central Issue Prices. The State Governments undertake distribution of these commodities to the consumers through the PDS. The operational responsibility for implementing the PDS rests with the State Governments. Matters relating to coverage of population, eligibility criteria, scale of entitlement of PDS items, periodicity of avail-

ability, inter-districts and intra-region allocations etc. are dealt with by the State Governments. Matters relating to policy and implementation of PDS are discussed with the State Governments at regional meetings and at the Advisory Council on PDS and decisions are taken by consensus for implementation of PDS in the country.

Projects by Indian Railway Construction Company

3048. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the major projects undertaken by the Indian Railway Construction Company during the last two years; and

(b) the total profit earned during the past two years by IRCON?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) (a) *Statements I and II* are attached.

(b) The total profit before tax earned during the past two years is Rs. 41.34 crore.

STATEMENT—I

(a) *Details of Foreign Works secured by Indian Railway Construction Company Limited during the last two years 1991-92 & 1992-93.*

S. No.	Name of work	Value of work in million of Rs.	Name & address of the client from whom work was executed
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1991-92

1.	Malaysia Doubling and Rehabilitation of Port Klang Railway line Subang and Sentul (about 42 Kms, double line length) in Malaysia (Package 'A').	1719.7	Malayan Rly. Admn.
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