

4. Intensive Cotton Development Programme;
5. National Pulses Development Project;
6. Oilseeds Production Programme;
7. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed areas;
8. Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Projects;
9. Promoting use of Plastics in Agriculture;
10. Integrated Development of Tropical and Temperate zone fruits;
11. Development of spices;
12. Balanced and Integrated use of fertilisers.

An amount of Rs. 86 crores (approx) has been released to the State Govt. in respect of these schemes during the above period. The implementation of Schemes has helped in substantial increase in production of foodgrains and cotton.

[Translation]

Complaints against Ticket Checkers

2102. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints against several ticket checkers and conductors working under various zones of the Railways in regard to their so called arbitrary behaviour and harassing the passengers;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during the last two years from each zone;

(c) the action taken in this regard so far; and

(d) the number of persons punished on this account?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The number of complaints received zone-wise is as under:-

Central-362, Eastern-92, Northern-675, North Eastern-66, Northeast Frontier-5, Southern-370, South Central-21, South Eastern-144, Western-143.

(c) and (d). The complaints were investigated and staff in 522 cases have been punished so far.

[English]

Reservation in Higher Education

2103. SHRI K. PRADHAN:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) is not in favour of reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates in teaching posts in the Institute of higher education;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to provide reservation in the teaching jobs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). The University Grants Commission, have informed the Government that they are in favour of reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates in teaching positions upto the level of Lecturer to the extent of 15% for Schedule Castes and 7½% for Scheduled Tribes. The pay scale for the post of Lecturers in the Colleges/Universities is Rs. 2200-4000 which is analogous to Group 'A' posts in the Government.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government/UGC to ensure implementation of reservation policy in the Universities.

1. SC/ST Cells have been set up in 97 Universities to safeguard the interests of SC/ST candidates.

2. The Universities are reminded from time to time to adhere to the reservation policy and discussions are held on the reservation policy in the periodic review meetings of UGC with Registrars of Universities.

3. The Commission has decided to hold Regional meetings of Universities where the cells have been set up to review the implementation of reservation policy.

Railway Project in Rajasthan

2104. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of Railway Projects yet to be completed in Rajasthan;

(b) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed; and

(c) the amount to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c). Details of the gauge conversion works covering/passing through Rajasthan, now in progress, are as under:

| Project | Estimated cost (Rs. in Crores) | Likely date of completion |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Phulera—Marwar | 220 | 1994-95 |
| 2. Marwar—Mahesana | 215 | 1995-96 |
| 3. Jodhpur—Luni—Marwar | 69 | 1995-96 |
| 4. Jodhpur—Jaisalmer | 113 | 1994-95 |