

of Commission payable to Vendors ranges from 6 to 12 per cent and is uniform on all the Divisions of Central Railway.

Metro Railway in Calcutta

5001. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are four more proposals Metro Railway in Calcutta and Howrah;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which any one of them is likely to take off; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for the East-West corridor connecting Salt Lake with Ramrajatola?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). Two Surveys, i.e. (i) Preliminary-Engineering-cum-final location survey for extension of Metro Railway from Tollygunj to New Garia, and (ii) Engineering-cum-traffic survey for its extension from Dum Dum to Barrackpore have been included in Railways Works Programme 1995-96. Taking up of the work will depend upon result of the survey and availability of funds.

(c) No, Sir.

Construction of Sports Stadium in Bangalore

5002. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA :
SHRI K.C. SHIVAPPA :
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to construct sports stadium in Bangalore for the coming National games; and

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) No, Sir. The State Government of Karnataka and the Organising Committee have to construct the Sports Stadium in Bangalore for the coming National games.

(b) Does not arise.

Pension to Agricultural Labour

5003. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to introduce any scheme for grant of old age pension to agricultural labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expected time of implementing the scheme;

(d) whether the scheme would be entirely sponsored by the Central Government; and

(e) if not, the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (e). The Ministry of Labour had constituted a working Group to study the existing Social Security and Welfare measures available to the workers in the unorganised sector. After due deliberations, the said Group constituted a sub-group to draw up an outline scheme for adoption by the Central/State Governments. The Sub-Group identified the Agricultural Workers, rural artisans, small and marginal farmers as the proposed beneficiaries in the first phase, to be extended to other categories in the second phase. The Social Security package under consideration includes Life Insurance, old age pension to identified beneficiaries above the age of 60 years, medical assistance and maternity benefit. The Sub-Group has also deliberated on viable sources of funding the package, methods to create awareness and participation and effective implementation. The model scheme outlined above is being given a final shape.

The Scheme is proposed to be funded by contribution from the members (beneficiaries), subsidy from Social Security Fund of Ministry of Finance (operated through LIC) and the Central/State assistance to the nodal agencies. The outline scheme is yet to be approved by the Working Group for recommendation to the Government.

Centralisation of Purchasing Material

5004. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have centralised in the purchases;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(c) whether the purchases made by the centre are at higher prices than those which were made by the Zonal Railways;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). Certain items of high value with limited sources of supply or having other special features are centralised for procurement in Railway Board. This also helps to obtain price advantage by way of bulking the requirements of the Railways/Production Units and the procurement is made more effectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.