

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No. Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Subsidies and concessions on freight traffic are granted on socio-economic considerations.

[English]

#### Railway Projects

2185. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have raised money from public for executing some of the major projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. has raised Rs. 1272.62 crores through private placement as well as public issue of tax-free bonds between 1991-92 and 1994-95.

#### Gauge Conversion

2186. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount to be spent for the gauge conversion in the country during the last three years;

(b) the total kilometers distance covered by the gauge conversion in the country during the last three years, zone-wise;

(c) the total kilometers distance covered by the gauge conversion in Kerala during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government are considering II<sup>nd</sup> phase gauge conversion of Madras-Quilon Meter-gauge line; and

(e) if so, the time by which the work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Expenditure incurred on gauge conversion during the last three years is as under :

1991-92	Rs. 133.84 crores
1992-93	Rs. 693.91 crores
1993-94	Rs. 999.52 crores
<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs.1827.27 crores</b>

(b) Gauge conversion completed during the last three years zone-wise is as under :

1991-92	
Zone/Rly	Distance/Kms.
South Central	114
North-Eastern	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>
1992-93	
Central	NIL
Eastern	NIL
Northern	446
North Eastern	68
North-east Frontier	NIL
Southern	405
South Central	227
South Eastern	35
Western	170
<b>Total</b>	<b>1351</b>
1993-94	
Central	42
Eastern	NIL
Northern	436
North Eastern	220
Northeast Frontier	181
Southern	263
South Central	332
South Eastern	82
Western	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>1619</b>

(c) Nil

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The work is included in the Action Plan and is likely to be taken up in the IX Plan.

#### Import of Edible Oil

2187. SHRI D.VENKATESWARA RAO :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether coconut farmers are put to great difficulties since the inclusion of some edible oils in open General Licence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) steps taken to solve this problem;