

[Translation]

Diesel Locomotive

2704. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether diesel locomotive works has manufactured a new type of engine named 'Shakti' with horse power more than Railway Engines;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the capacity and speed of the above engine; and

(c) the cost of this new engine 'Shakti'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The engine is of 3100 HP capacity and hauls maximum load of 4700 Metric Tonne at 69 KMPH.

(c) The provisional cost of the locomotive is Rs. 2.45 crores.

Vacancies of Teachers in Central Schools

2705. SHRI B. L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several posts of teachers in Central Schools are lying vacant and students are facing great inconvenience as a result thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts of the teachers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT. (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has informed that the following posts were vacant as on 1.4.1995 :-

| | | |
|--------------------|---|------|
| Principal | : | 138 |
| Vice-Principal | : | 120 |
| Head Master | : | 99 |
| PGTs | : | 1045 |
| TGTs/PRTs & others | : | 3629 |

(c) Promotion and Selections made by KVS, for appointments are as under :-

| | | |
|--------------------|---|------|
| Principal | : | 119 |
| Vice-Principal | : | 120 |
| Head Master | : | 99 |
| PGTs | : | 256 |
| TGTs/PRTs & others | : | 3824 |

Direct Recruitment for PGTs has been undertaken. In the absence of regular teachers, the Principals have been authorised by KVS, to appoint teachers on contract basis wherever necessary.

[English]

Decontrol of Fertilizers

2706. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the union Government propose to lift control from some kind of fertilizers ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Union Government also propose to enhance the "farm-gate". price of urea ;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the farmers would be benefited as a result thereof; and

(f) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) :- (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Lions

2707. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Lions poached during each of the last three years;

(b) whether an international gang is active in poaching of the Lions in the country;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government to check this gang from poaching of the Lions; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Government to preserve and protect this endangered species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS : (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt. of Gujarat has reported that during the last three years only one lion was killed by poachers in 1992-93. In addition, two lions are reported to have been killed during the current year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The steps taken for the conservation of lions include :

(i) The species occurs only in the Gir forests of Gujarat. An area of 1412 sq. km has been declared as national park and sanctuary for the protection of the species and its habitat.

(ii) Financial assistance is provided by the Central Govt. for development of Gir Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park.

(iii) Lion is included in Schedule I of the Act thereby receiving the maximum protection under the provision of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(iv) Lion is included in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and any International trade of the species and articles made there from is completely prohibited.

(v) A proposal has been developed for re-introduction of lions into the Kuno-Palpur Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh to establish an alternative population of the species. Some preliminary work has already been started by the State Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for implementing this project.

Railway Wagons

2708. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Research Design Division under his Ministry has manufactured such wagon Train which besides running with great speed can carry more load:

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the date from which these wagons are likely to be put into use ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c). A 25 tonne Axle load Hopper wagon has recently been designed by Research Designs and Standards Organisation. This would increase throughput (Pay load per rake) of a Goods Train by 422 tonnes i.e., from 3235 Tonnes to 3657 Tonnes, as compared to BOBRN wagon, which is in use at present. This wagon would be capable of running at 100 KMPH.

If the design is approved, prototype wagons will be manufactured and put to field trials. Regular manufacture shall be undertaken after successful completion of field trials.

[English]

Metro Railway Project

2709. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to link Salt Lake and Ramrajatala under Metro Railway Project.

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.