

Stoppage of Express Trains at Betul and Hshangeabad Stations

1905. SHRIASLAM SHER KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to provide stoppages to some superfast express trains at some stations in Madhya Pradesh particularly at Betul and Heshangabad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Not present, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Pollution Masks

[*English*]

1906. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued guidelines for use of pollution masks while using vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to sell these masks on approved shops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

World Bank's Financial Assistance for Agro-Industries

1907. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sought any financial assistance from World Bank for the promotion of Agro-based industries in the country; and

(b) If so, the details thereof indicating the amount of financial assistance likely to be granted by world Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON- CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Government has not sought any financial Assistance from world Bank for the promotion of Agro-based industries in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Seed Research Projects

1908. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seed research projects in operation at present in the country ;

(b) the names of the States and the Union Territories where these projects have

been set up;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up such seed research projects in other parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON- CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR):(a) National Seed Project is the only seed research project in operation in the country .

(b) The project is in operation in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise, Sir.

Railway Safety Works Fund

1909. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV; Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds collected under the head 'Railway Safety Works Fund' during the last three years;

(b) the procedure adopted for collecting this fund;

(c) the criteria adopted for allocating such fund to various zonal Railways;

(d) whether any review has been done for the utilisation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (e). The Railway Safety Works Fund is financed through an annual contribution made by the Ministry of Railways, from out of their Revenues, to the General Revenues on the Capital-at-charge as on 31. 3. 64. No separate fund is collected for this purpose. The amount accrued to the fund during the last three years is indicated below:

1989-90	Rs. 308.61 Lakhs
1990-91	Rs. 289.51 Lakhs
1991-92	Rs. 285. 50 Lakhs

80% of the moneys credited to the Fund are allocated to the State Governments on the same basis as adopted for distribution of the grant in lieu of the repealed Passenger Fare Tax as recommended by the successive Finance Commissions and the remaining 20% to the Zonal Railways. The present distribution to the States is shown in the statement .

Actual transfer of funds, however, is in the form of reimbursement; the expenditure, however, is initially borne by the State Governments. The reimbursement is on the basis of bills preferred by the State Governments to the General. The payment is made subject of availability of balance in the Fund and matching budget grant.

The procedure for reimbursement to the States was reviewed in 1983-84 in order to remove bottlenecks and simplify the same. The revised procedure came into force with effect from 1. 4. 84. The State Governments are now required to deal with only the nominated Railways for all matters relating to Railway Safety Works Fund.