

performing arts and all aspects of evolution of various art forms of folk and tribal arts.

[*Translation*]

**Schemes for flood control in hilly areas of U.P.**

4611. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry propose to prepare a comprehensive scheme for flood control for hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). A comprehensive plan for flood control for the Ganga Basin is under finalisation. However, the problem in hilly areas is mainly one of soil erosion and not of flooding.

[*English*]

**Reservation of seats in Delhi University for foreign students**

4612. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seats reserved in Delhi University for foreign students faculty-wise in the year 1983-84 and 1984-85 ;

(b) the number of applications received by the Ministry during the said period ; and

(c) the number of students to whom admission was given during that period and upto what minimum percentage of marks such admissions were made and to which countries those students belonged ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The Delhi University has not reserved any specific number of seats for admission of foreign students. However, in December, 1983,

the University had resolved that not more than 5% of the total seats can be reserved for admission of foreign students to the first year of each course being offered by the Colleges. The Colleges have also been permitted to admit more students on the recommendation of the Foreign Students Adviser.

(b) and (c). During 1983-84, 550 foreign students sought admission to the University, of whom 381 were admitted. During 1984-85, the number of applicants was 650, and the number of those admitted was 438. The foreign students who have joined the University come from as many as 70 countries, the largest number among them being from Somalia, Thailand, Iran, Nepal, Bhutan, etc. As the educational records of these students vary from country to country, it is not possible to indicate the minimum percentage of marks on the basis of which these students were admitted. However, only those students who fulfilled the admission requirements laid down by the University were offered admission.

**Railway track near Arjunpur in Murshidabad District**

4613. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the railway track near Arjunpur in Murshidabad District of West Bengal is in a critical state due to Ganga erosion ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to protect this railway track ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) and (b). The Railway is aware of the erosion activity of river Ganga in this reach. At the location of Arjunpur near Sankopara Railway Station, the river bank is 325 Metres away

from the track and condition is presently not critical and is being kept under constant watch.

(c) Not considered necessary for the present.

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

**Complaints reg. high price and short quantity of Food supplied under new catering system**

4614. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that innumerable complaints have been made by the railway passengers as regards high price and short quantity of the food supplied to the passengers under the new catering system ; and

(b) if so, what are measures taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) and (b). Revised menu in disposable casseroles has been introduced on certain selected pairs of trains in consultation with India Tourism Development Corporation. By and large, the response to the revised system has been favourable, and complaints are very few. The price has been fixed on the basis of current cost of raw materials etc. for the quantity supplied.

**Representation of Inter-States Interest on Advisory Council of Delhi Transport Corporation**

4615. SHRI KESHORAO PARDHI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether commuters of Inter-States were given representation on the Advisory Council of Delhi Transport Corporation constituted in January, 1975 ;

(b) whether no representation has been given in the Advisory Council of the Delhi Transport Corporation to the 'Inter-States Interest' reconstituted in 1985 ; and

(c) whether many Members of Parliament have focussed the attention of Government on the above issue, during last few months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). No such specific representation to Inter-States Commuters representatives is given in the rules relating to constitution of Advisory Council of the Delhi Transport Corporation as DTC is mainly to provide transport services in the Union Territory of Delhi Additional services by way of inter-state operations are undertaken only with reference to bilateral arrangements between Delhi Administration and the neighbouring State Governments.

(c) Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

**Steps to promote Hindi in Railways**

4616. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to promote Hindi in the Ministry of Railways ; and

(b) the progress made in the use of Hindi in various fields as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) With a view to ensure the strict compliance of the provisions of the Official Languages Act, 1963 as amended by Official Languages (Amendment) Act, 1967 and Official Languages Rules, 1976, several steps have been taken in the Board's Office and the Railways. A few of them are as under :

(i) The Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Official Language) formulates an annual Programme every year in order to promote the use of Hindi in the Central Govt. offices.

(ii) Official Languages Implementation Committee and Railway Hindi