

[English]

**Steam Engines Condemned and Sheds Closed****Use of Soviet Technology for Construction of Dams**

757. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to use Soviet technology for designing and construction of dams in the country ;

(b) whether any discussion with the Soviet experts in this regard was held recently ;

(c) if so, details thereof ; and

(d) when a final decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Under the Protocol signed between India and the U.S.S.R. for technical cooperation in the field of Water Resources Development, the designing and construction of dams is one of the items identified for cooperation.

(b) to (d) An Indian expert team visited the U.S.S.R. in September-October, 1985 and had discussions with Soviet experts in this regard.

The delegation has identified some features in Soviet dams design and construction which could be adopted in India where applicable. They include :

- (i) Treatment of dam foundation which has water soluble gypsum lenses.
- (ii) Special type of energy dissipation arrangements.
- (iii) Wave deflectors on top of embankment dams.
- (iv) Reinforced concrete panels on the upstream face of dam in place of rip-rap.
- (v) Fish transportation system across a regulator by a travelling net.

758. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of steam engines are condemned every year ;

(b) if so, their number, Zone-wise, during the last three years ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to the condemning of steam engines many sheds have been closed down ;

(d) if so, the number of the sheds closed down in Western-Zone, till date ;

(e) whether it is a fact that many trains have been cancelled, if so, the number of trains cancelled during the year 1984-85 ;

(f) whether Government propose to consider introduction of diesel engine in place of steam engine on those lines from where steam engine has been withdrawn ; and

(g) how the condemned steam engines are being disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) On Western Railway only Godhra steam shed has been closed but due to change of traction.

(e) No, Sir. No trains have been cancelled due to condemnation of steam locos in 1984-85.

(f) Whenever Steam locomotives are withdrawn their replacement by alternative modes of traction including diesel traction is considered.

(g) Mostly sale through public auction.