

(e) whether the recommendations of the expert committee on Archaeology, headed by Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha have been implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) :** (a) and (b). Complaints have been received from individuals and Unions mainly regarding service matters alleging lack of adequate attention by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(c) No enquiry committee was set up.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Expert Committee headed by Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha made 81 principal recommendations which were considered by an Empowered Committee. Action has been taken on 62 recommendations. Action on the remaining 19 recommendations has been initiated.

#### **Provision of Pantry Cars in Kalinga/Utkal Express**

119. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a growing demand and also need to attach pantry car with Kalinga/Utkal Express ;

(b) if so, when this demand is to be met ; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) :** (a) to (c). It has been decided to introduce pantry car services on Kalinga/Utkal Express trains during the current year.

#### **External Assistance For Long Term Programme For Development of Railways**

120. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to launch a 45 crores long term

programme for the development of Railways ;

(b) if so, whether Government have sought World Bank assistance or external assistance to implement that long term programme ;

(c) the various developmental programmes, included in the above projects ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) :** (a) Railways have drawn up a Corporate Plan covering 15 years' period from 1985 to 2000, which envisages an investment of about Rs. 45000 crores.

(b) No specific World Bank or external assistance has been sought, for the Corporate Plan.

(c) and (d). Indian Railways Corporate Plan envisages all round development of the railway infrastructure including improvement in quality and reliability of both passenger and freight services, renewal/rehabilitation of old assets, technology upgradation, improved productivity of assets and optimisation of investment, reduction in costs & development of human resources etc. apart from development of adequate line capacity and rolling stock capacity to handle the anticipated levels of traffic.

#### **Catering service in Express Trains**

121. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is growing discontentment among the Delhi-Puri bound passengers and vice-versa due to the poor catering services in Neelachal Express ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to improve the catering services in 175/176 and 915/916 National Express trains?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) :** (a) and (b). No

Sir. However, various steps taken and proposed to be taken to improve catering service by 175/176 and 915/916 pairs of trains include introduction of revised menus in disposable aluminium casseroles, frequent inspections at Senior Officers' level, procurement and installation of modern kitchen equipments, modernisation of Base Kitchens, training of cooks, etc.

#### **Proposal For a Separate National Highway Authority**

122. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to create a separate National Highway Authority for Orissa, West Bengal and some other eastern States ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the proposed National Highway Authority will take up the construction and maintenance of National Highway ; and

(d) the details of the main functions of such Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) (to) (d). There is no proposal to create a separate National Highway Authority for Orissa, West Bengal and some other eastern States. However, Government has under consideration a proposal to set up a National Highway Authority for the management of all the National Highways in the Country. No final decision has been taken as yet.

#### **Tele-Communication Facilities at Major Ports**

123. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that many major ports do not have adequate tele-communication facilities ;

(b) if so, the steps taken to develop the tele-communication network at different major ports ; and

(c) the details of the tele-communication facilities proposed to be provided at Paradip Port in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). The tele-communication facilities at most of the Ports are considered adequate. However, some of the Port Authorities have reported that the existing tele-communication facilities at those Ports need improvement. The Ports constantly review their tele-communication needs and put up proposals for adequate facilities.

(c) In the current financial year the Paradip port has no provision in its Budget for expansion of tele communication facilities.

#### **Purchase of Unregistered Art Objects by Museums**

124. SHRI RAM DHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the violation of the mandatory provisions of registration of antiquities ;

(b) if so, the instances of such violations ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the National Museum and other Museums are purchasing unregistered art objects ; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to prevent such violations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since 1980, twenty-two instances of such violations have come to the notice of the Government.

(c) The information is being collected.

(d) The following steps have been taken by the Government to prevent such violations :