

Consumption of Crude by Railways

1598. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) how much quantity of crude in tonnes has been provided to railways during 1985-86 ;

(b) the rate of consumption of diesel by railways ;

(c) whether electric transportation is economical than diesel transportation ; and

(d) if so, whether Government would consider taking up electrification of railways on a large scale ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Crude is not used as fuel in locomotives on Indian Railways. Locomotives on the Indian Railways are worked with diesel oil. As per revised estimates, during 1985-86 the provision of diesel oil for traction purposes is 1.54 million kilolitres.

(b) The rate of consumption of diesel in litres per thousand gross tonne kilometres, is as under :—

*Passenger and Proportion of mixed. (in litres)	*Goods and Proportion of mixed (in litres)	
Broad Gauge	5.10	3.46
Metre Gauge	5.84	4.39

*based on 1984-85 figures.

(c) Electric traction on a section becomes more economical than diesel traction when the traffic density rises above the break-even level.

(d) Railways already have a plan of electrification based on traffic requirements, and availability of funds.

Consumption of Diesel by Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge Trains

1599. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more diesel is consumed by the Broad Gauge trains in comparison to Metre Gauge trains ;

(b) if so, the ratio of diesel (in litres) consumed by Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge trains ; and

(c) keeping this in view what steps Government contemplate to save diesel ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The ratio of diesel consumed by Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge trains is about*5.7. However, the consumptions of diesel on a gauge is related to the traffic carried on that gauge. The traffic hauled on Broad Gauge is approximately*6.7 times of the traffic hauled on Metre Gauge. The dieselisation of trains, whether on Broad Gauge or Metre Gauge, is decided essentially according to the density of the traffic. The consumption of fuel, whether on Broad or Metre Gauge is, however, closely monitored with a view to effect economy and efficiency in fuel consumption.

Zonal Branches of U.G.C.

1600. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up Zonal branches of the University Grants Commission to decentralise its functioning, and

(b) if so, when the zonal branches would be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b) The Government have no proposal at present to set up zonal branches of the University Grants Commission.

*Based on 1984-85 figures.