

TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large amount of licence fee in respect of railway land and shops in Northern and North Eastern Railways is outstanding;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said outstanding amount is increasing continuously;

(c) if so, whether any effective steps have been taken by Government to recover such dues;

(d) if so, the details and the results thereof; and

(e) if not, steps have been taken the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Railways have been directed to liquidate the outstanding dues by constant chasing with the defaulters. As a result, outstanding dues on Northern Railway have been brought down from Rs. 1,29,87,000 as on 31.3.85 to Rs. 97,83,000 as on 31.3.86. On North Eastern Railway the outstanding dues have come down from Rs. 78,81,251 as on 31.3.85 to Rs. 57,52,619 as on 31.12.86.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Level Crossing gates in Rural Areas

5498. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to lesser number of level crossing gates in rural areas of the country, farmers in the desert areas have to cover a distance of 6 to 15 kilometres more to reach their destinations;

(b) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Railways to remove their difficulty;

(c) the amount provided for this purpose for 1986-87 and the number of places where level crossing gates have been provided with this amount; and

(d) the programme in this regard for the year 1987-88 ?

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

(b) Railways provide sufficient number of level crossings at the time of laying new railway lines and also during the period of 10 years after commissioning the line. After this period additional level crossings are provided by Railways on deposit terms if sponsored by State Government/Local Authority.

(c) and (d). Do not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

[*English*]

Desilting of Reservoir above Prakasam Barrage

5499. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the reservoir above Prakasam barrage on Krishna River at Vijayawada has silted up considerably reducing the storage capacity to a considerable extent;

(b) if so, the measures proposed to remove the siltage with small size dredgers mounted on big boats; and

(c) whether this item will be included in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The Prakasam Barrage is a diversion structure and temporary shoaling of a minor nature occurs during floods which does not affect the flow conditions.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Installation of Closed Circuit T.V. Sets at Railway Stations in Andhra Pradesh

5500. SHRI V. SOBHANADREES-