

(d) Director General, UNESCO, has visited India to launch Asia Pacific Programme of Education for All (APPEAL) on 23.2.1987 for Member States in Asia and Pacific region.

#### Utilisation of water flowing into Pakistan

3438. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any progress has been made to utilise the water that is presently flowing into Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the bottlenecks coming in the way;

(d) how much of the area could be irrigated if this had not flown across the border; and

(e) what is Government's latest line of action in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :

(a) to (e). An average of about one million acre feet of water of river Ravi (capable of creating an irrigation potential of about 0.16 million hectares, flow down to Pakistan during the monsoon season. To utilise these waters the construction of Thein Dam has been taken up.

[Translation]

#### Modernisation of communication system in Railways

3439. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA ; SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to improve the present system of communication in Railways;

(b) whether some foreign experts were consulted for bringing about improvement

in the present system and for introducing the new systems;

(c) whether efforts were also made to consult the experts available in India before utilising the services of foreign experts; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard ?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A limited tender was issued to 28 firms including two major Indian Government companies for consultancy, viz. Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) and Telecommunication Consultants of India Limited (TCIL). After consideration tenders M/s DETECON, a West German firm was selected and appointed.

#### Kapurthala Coach Factory

3440. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to give preference to local people in the matter of employment in Integral Coach Factory, Kapurthala;

(b) if so, the efforts made in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b).

Within the frame work of extant instructions relating to recruitment on Railways, due consideration is given to local people in the matter of initial recruitment in the Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala. One member of each family displaced due to acquisition of land for setting up the factory, is also considered for appointment subject to conditions prescribed in the extant instructions.