

(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.

(c) Does not arise.

**Participation of artists from Patiala
in Apna Utsav**

3441. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RE-
SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to
state :

(a) whether some artists from North
Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala participated
in 'Apna Utsav' held in Delhi last year;

(b) if so, the number of artists selected
by this Centre;

(c) whether all those artists took part
in this festival; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RE-
SOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND
MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA
RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 560.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

**Goods train without a driver and
guard**

3442. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS
be pleased to state :

(a) whether on 25 December, 1986 a
goods train loaded with ironore traveller
for about 30 Kilometres and shot past three
stations-Dalli Rajhara, Gusum and Balod,
without driver and the guard;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been
conducted into this incident;

(c) if so, the details of the inquiry
report; and

(d) the action taken against those found
responsible if any, for this incident ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) On
24.12.86, a load of iron-ore wagons rolled
down while being drawn from Rajhara siding
as the driver who was on the engine failed
to keep the load under control. The guard
was to take over the train from Dalli
Rajhara Station.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The driver started the load
without ensuring adequate brake power.
The driver was placed under suspension
and disciplinary action against him has been
initiated.

**Consensus on water rates for
Irrigation**

3443. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRIMATI BASAVA-
RAJESWARI :

Will the Minister of WATER RE-
SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have
decided to make another attempt to evolve a
consensus amongst States on increasing
charges of water supply for irrigation; if so,
the outcome thereof:

(b) whether the National Water Re-
sources Council met in October, 1985 and
again in February, 1987 to discuss certain
issues in this regard;

(c) if so, whether any final agreement
has been reached; and

(d) if not, the main reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-
SOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :
(a) The National Conference of Irrigation
and Water Resources Ministers held in
July, 1986 was of the view that the water
rates need to be increased gradually taking
into consideration the rising capital, opera-
tion and maintenance costs,