

Uneconomic Railway Lines

4037. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss suffered by Government during the year 1986-87 on running the uneconomic railway lines in the country stating the names of these lines and the comparative percentage of rise in the losses during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87; and

(b) which of the uneconomic lines, if any, have been closed down during 1986-87 (till date) and the estimated savings as a consequence thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The losses suffered on various lines during 1986-87 are not available at present. The overall figures for the previous 2 years are given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Loss</i>	<i>%age increase over previous year</i>
1984-85	Rs. 67.40 Crores	-
1985-86	Rs. 77.78 Crores	15.4%

(b) No uneconomic branch line was closed during 1986-87?

Measures for detection of AIDS at Airports

4038. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of foreigners from AIDS infected countries visit Bombay regularly;

(b) what measures for detection of AIDS have been taken at various airports and ports; and

(c) whether any check is being kept on the numerous blood banks and clinics which could be the source for out-break of AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) Government are aware that large number of foreigners from AIDS infected countries visit India including Bombay.

(b) Surveillance centres have been established in major towns and metropolitan cities to screen high risk group persons for AIDS. Foreign students being admitted in any Indian universities are required to undergo AIDS testing in any of the surveillance centres within one month of arrival. The Government has also decided to screen foreigners for AIDS who intend to stay for more than one year, except those working in missions.

(c) All the blood banks have been instructed to screen the professional blood donors.

Restrictions have been imposed for import of blood and blood products without AIDS clearance certificate.

Demands of Students of G.B. Pant and Pusa Polytechnics

4039. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1929 on 19 November, 1987 regarding demands of students of G.B. Pant and Pusa Polytechnics and state: