

	1	2	3	4
14	Chile		Supply of diesel loco spares for ALCO engine	Rs. 1 lakh
15	Bangladesh		Maintenance of locomotive	Rs.1800 lakh
<i>IRCON :</i>				
1	Tanzania		Supply of 100 BS 80A turnouts and accessories to Tanzania Railway Corpn.	269 lakh Rs.
2	Nepal		(a) Construction of Pension Paying Office Complex at Dharan	354 lakh Rs.
			(b) Road Rehabilitation Project	981 lakh Rs.
3	Bangladesh		(a) Railway Signalling and interlocking work for six railway stations on Mymensingh-Jamalpur section of Bangladesh Railways	600 lakh Rs.
			(b) Second Road Rehabilitation and Maintenance Project	3000 lakh Rs.
4.	Iran		Signalling Project on Ahwaz-Badare-Imam section of Islamic Republic of Iranian State Railways. Contract signed but work not yet start.	2055 lakh Rs.
5.	Malaysia		a) Leasing of 10 additional YDM4 diesel locomotives for the use by the Malayan Railway.	
			b) Earlier supplied 24 locos now under maintenance	5068 lakh Rs.
			c) Construction and commissioning of the south chord line near Port Klang in Malaysia.	275 lakh Rs.
6.	Angola, Italy & Lebanon.		Contract for provision of engineering and support services to the United Nations, New York.	US \$ 4.95 million

[English]

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

#### Rajbhasha Hindi Awards

2078. KUMARI SUSHIL TIRIYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- whether Rajbhasha Hindi test is conducted annually among the employees of All India Radio;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the norms fixed for selecting panel of judges;
- whether the selection of employees for giving award has been done on merit this year; and
- if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

#### Shortage of coaches

2079. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- whether there are shortage of all types of coaches in Eastern, North Eastern Frontier and South-Eastern Railways;
- the steps taken by the Government to provide spare coaches to these zones;
- whether these zones have to take coaches from other zonal railways;
- whether Shatabdi Express between Howrah and New Jalpaiguri has not been introduced for want of coaches; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no shortage of coaches for running the trains with scheduled composition.

(b) and (c). During 1996-97, Eastern Railway have been allotted new air brake coaches for introduction of 3017/3018 Howrah-Rampurhat Express. for conversion of 2307/2308 Express into air brake and during the year, they will also be given new coaches for conversion of 3143/3144 Mail into air brake. S.E. Railway have been given coaches for conversion of 2801/2802 Express into air brake. Similarly N.F. Railway will be given new coaches for conversion of 5659/5660 Kamrup Express and 5645/5646 Express into air brake during the current year.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Facilities to Railway Employees at Tikiapara Railway Yard

2080. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees who are performing their duties in night at Tikiapara Railway Yard of Eastern Railway are facing lot of hardship in the absence of insufficient light, doctors, ambulance, telephones and canteen facilities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they have to perform their duties at docks which are always full of dirty water;

(c) whether it is a fact that attention have been drawn towards the high officials of Eastern Railway about these problems; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

(e)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. Canteen facilities are available during day time.

(b) Tikiapara is a low lying area and prone to water logging during monsoon. Pumps which are operated round the clock are provided to remove the water.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Adequate lighting arrangements are ensured at the Tikiapara Coaching Yard and the arrangements regularly checked. Adequate Telephone facilities are available at Howrah Orthopaedic Hospital of the Railway, which is about 2 Kms. from Tikiapara Yard, in addition to Doctors at Tikiapara Dispensary during day time. Meetings are held with Mayor, Howrah Municipality for the improvement of the drainage system to solve the water logging problem. [Translation]

#### Western Television Culture in the Country

2081. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any formal cultural policy keeping in view the increasing effect of Western Television Channels in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Paging Services

2082. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newstime captioned "Pagers : A fat book but a few pages missing" appearing in 'The Economic Times', New Delhi dated November 6, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the measure being taken by his Ministry to meet the likely growth of the paging services subscribers base; and

(d) the reaction of the Government regarding the demand by the subscribers for cellular phones and pagers in the near future and in which area this is likely to raise the growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No study of market for Paging & Cellular Services have been carried out by Department of Telecom.

(c) and (d). Department of Telecom has licensed Radio Paging and Cellular Mobile Telephone Services to Indian Registered companies on a non-exclusive basis. The number of slots for Cellular Service has been fixed as two and for Radio Paging Service between 2 to 5 in a service area. No licence has been granted for Cellular Service in Jammu & Kashmir and Andaman & Nicobar Territorial Telecom. Circles. Also no licence has been issued for Radio Paging Service in Bihar Circle excluding Patna city. It is expected that the licensee companies shall meet the growth of paging and cellular services subscribers base in the country.