

(a) whether a new alarm chain system has been introduced in the trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the Railway zones where this new system has been introduced and the extent to which it has proved successful for the purpose;

(d) the estimated expenditure involved; and

(e) whether it is introduced with indigenous know-how or imported technology alongwith details?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. New coaches being manufactured now are being provided with this arrangement. Old coaches are also being modified to incorporate this system.

(b) The system incorporates a hooter and flash light indicator to identify the coach quickly where the alarm chain is pulled. The clappet valve has also been relocated so that miscreants cannot operate the alarm chain system from outside the coach easily. The number of alarm chain points have also been rationalised.

(c) The new system is being introduced on all the Zonal Railways. This arrangement has proved successful in reducing miscreants activity.

(d) Rs. 27 Crores (Approximately).

(e) With indigenous know-how only.

#### **Irregularities in State Bank of Indore**

2129. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of financial irregularities detected in the State Bank of Indore during the last three years including current year so far, together with the amount involved; and

(b) the action taken against the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) According to RBI, the total number of cases of frauds detected in various branches of State Bank of Indore and amount involved therein, as reported to it by the bank, during the years 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1988 (upto 30.9.88) is as indicated below:

Year	No. of cases of frauds	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)
1985	13	672.60
1986	17	37.35
1987	44	231.96
1988 (upto 30.9.88)	9	12.93

(Data provisional)

(b) RBI has further reported that in connection with these frauds, State Bank of In-

dore has taken action against 172 officials as indicated below:

(1) No. of employees given major/minor penalty

(2)	No. of employees out of (1) above dismissed/ discharged/removed	-	13
(3)	No. of employees against whom prosecution is pending in Courts	-	13
(4)	No. of employees against whom disciplinary proceedings are pending	-	131

(Data provisional)

### **Expenditure Incurred by State Bank of Indore on Litigations**

2130. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred by the State Bank of Indore on litigations during the last three years;

(b) whether there has been a steep increase in such expenditure;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the percentage of such expenditure spent on lawyers fees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) State Bank of Indore has reported to have incurred the following expenditure on litigation during the last three years:

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1985	7.50
1986	14.41
1987	25.06

(b) and (c). Due to increase in cases involving refusal to renew documents by the borrowers, the Bank has to resort to recovery through legal recourse to avoid docu-

ments becoming time barred. This has resulted in steep increase in expenditure on litigation.

(d) Percentage of such expenditure spent on litigation to lawyers' fees is as under:

1985	—	12.13%
1986	—	11.45%
1987	—	10.50%

### **Visit of Trade Delegation of USSR**

2131. SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level delegation from the Soviet Union visited for improvement of Indo-Soviet Trade Plan for 1989;

(b) if so, the main points of discussions:

(c) whether the Soviet Union has agreed to improve the trade with India and new contracts in this regard have been signed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (d). Recently a Soviet delegation led by Mr. V. F. Mordvinov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Relations of the USSR visited India for conclusion of the Indo-Soviet Annual Trade Plan for 1989. The Indian delegation was led by Shri A. N. Varma, Commerce Secretary. The Trade Protocol for 1989 was signed on 16th November,