

West Bengal Irrigation Average

3516. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of West Bengal regarding the national average in the field irrigation; and

(b) the target fixed to bring the land under irrigation by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) By the end of Sixth Five Year Plan 53.7% of the ultimate irrigation potential of West Bengal was achieved against the all India percentage of achievement of about 60%.

(b) Additional irrigation potential of 470 th. ha. is targetted to be created in West Bengal during the VII Five Year Plan.

Consignment Tax

3517. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Udhampur): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are envisaging levy of consignment tax on goods on transfer from one State to another State and propose to distribute the tax among the manufacturing States;

(b) whether such type of tax shall effect the State of Jammu and Kashmir adversely jeopardising its already critical financial condition; and

(c) whether Union Government propose to safeguard the interest of the State of Jammu and Kashmir and if so, in what manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Constitution (46th Amendment) Act, 1982 which empowers Parliament to enact law for levy of tax on the consignment of goods where such consignment takes place in the course of inter-State trade or commerce, has not been made applicable so far to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

[*Translation*]

Theft of Coal during Transportation

3518. SHRIDAL CHANDERJAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints from coal consuming industries in Madhya about the quantity of coal in railway wagons having been found to be less than the booked quantity;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith number of such complaints; and

(c) the remedial measures taken to check the recurrence of such incidents of theft of coal during transportation?

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

(b) Association of Industries Madhya Pradesh, Indore, Divisional Industries Association, Ratlam and Textile Processors' Association, Burhanpur have complained that invoiced weight of some coal wagons received by their members was not being correctly shown.

(c) Zonal Raiways have been directed

to ensure that correct weighing is done at the time of loading and increased vigilance exercised by R.P.F. in transit and in coal depots yards to prevent pilferage, if any.

[English]

Import of Simulators

3519. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import simulators to be used by Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these simulators would bring any improvement in the functioning of Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) One Simulator each suitable for diesel locomotives and electric locomotives is proposed to be procured in the first instance.

(c) and (d). Loco simulators will supplement the existing facilities with a view to train locomotive drivers specially for handling heavier freight trains as also for operating high-speed passenger trains. The drivers are expected to learn the techniques of handling trains to minimise fuel/energy consumption faster.

Allocation of funds for Sambalpur Division Project

3520. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the suggestion of Orissa Government to enhance the allocation for Sambalpur Railway Division project in Orissa in the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the additional amount proposed to allocated for that project in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No suggestion for enhancement of the allocation in the current financial year for Sambalpur Railway Division Project in Orissa, has been received from the Government of Orissa. However, the allocation has been enhanced by Rs. 34.00 lakhs during the current financial year.

Level crossing at Sripura (S.E. Railway)

3521. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a level crossing at Sripura near Lapanga on the Jharsuguda-Sambalpur section of South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the step taken to implement the above proposal; and

(c) the time by which the level crossing is likely to be set up?

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

(b) and (c). Necessary plans and estimate for the work, which includes construction of two culverts on the approach road, have since been finalised by the Railway in consultation with the concerned State authorities. The execution of the work will