

their programmes which promote regional languages. These include awards to creative writers, translation of books into languages, commissioning authors to write books on India and its culture, publication of books.

These programmes are being continued in the Seventh Five Year Plan with enhanced provisions.

(b) The allocation for the Seventh Five Year Plan approved by the Planning Commission for the programmes of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) in regard to the development and promotion of modern Indian languages is Rs. 764 lakhs. The allocations for the Seventh Five Year Plan in respect of Sahitya Akademi and National Book Trust are Rs. 425 lakhs and Rs. 675 lakhs respectively.

Plan to Increase Capacity to Move More Goods

1551. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) how do the Railways plan to increase their capacity to move more goods in tonnes and per km; and

(b) the details of the plan contemplated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) & (b) Railways propose to increase their capacity to move more goods traffic through replacement of over-aged assets, modernisation and technological upgradation, running of heavier freight trains of 4500-9000 tonnes, modernisation of traction with an electrification of 700 route Kms. per year, and through augmentation of line capacity and acquisition of about 20,000 wagons and 250 locomotives every year.

Anti Erosion Project for Right Bank of Ganga

1552. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any anti-erosion project for the right bank of the Ganga, downstream of Farakka Barrage has been prepared by the Ganga Flood Control Commission;

(b) if so, its broad outlines and its capital outlay; and

(c) how long will take to complete it?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) & (b) A scheme for anti-erosion measures for the right bank of the Ganga, downstream of Farakka Barrage has been finalised by the Ganga Flood Control Commission in consultation with the West Bengal Government at an estimated cost of Rs. 1163 lakhs. The scheme envisages taking up anti-erosion works on the right bank in Sankopara, Durgapur and Bajitpur mouzas. These works which are mainly of boulder revetment and launching apron in a vulnerable reach of 6.6 km. will also provide protection to the railway track and the National Highway.

(c) The scheme is currently pending with the Government of West Bengal for a decision on the sharing of cost and is yet to be approved. The date of completion would depend on the priority to be assigned to the scheme and allocation of funds therefor by the State Government, after its approval.

[Translation]

Import of Passenger Coaches from Japan

1553. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some passenger coaches are being imported from Japan and if so the reasons therefor;

(b) whether these imported coaches are to meet the shortage of coaches in the country or whether this scheme is meant for testing and bringing about improvements in coaches manufactured in India; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on this scheme ?