

(b) Yes, Sir. The Frankfurt Book Fair is an annual feature in which more than 100 countries including African countries participate.

(c) No, Sir. India shall have no direct communication with the participants from South Africa.

Amount earmarked for Buckingham and Krishna Canal Project

639. SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have earmarked any amount for the Buckingham Canal and the Krishna Canal Projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress of the actual work in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Seventh Five-Year Plan, funds have been provided amounting to Rs. 2.00 crores for improvement of North-Buckingham Canal stretch between Ennore to Andhra Pradesh border in Tamil Nadu and Rs. 3.00 crores for improvement of Buckingham Canal in Andhra Pradesh alongwith improvement of Krishna & Godavari Canal systems namely, Commamur, Eluru Canal and Kakinada Canal. A comprehensive feasibility Study for inter-linking of the Canal system (Buckingham Canal—Commamur Canal—Eluru Canal—Kakinada Canal) for navigation between Madras and Kakinada Ports is proposed to be undertaken under the technical assistance programme of Federal Republic of Germany. An FRG Expert has already visited the Canal system with a view to formulate terms of reference of the above Study. A Team of Experts propose to study the proposal.

(c) After knowing and analysing the results of the Feasibility Study, the

development works will be taken up for implementation.

[*Translation*]

Shuttle train between Agra and Jhansi

640. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a shuttle train between Agra and Jhansi;

(b) if so, from which date;

(c) whether Government also propose to lay a broad or metre gauge line between Gwalior and Sawai Madhopur via Sabalgarh, Sheopurkalana during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(d) if so, whether survey for this line is likely to be taken up during 1986-87; and

(e) whether Government have received any proposal from Madhya Pradesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Requests for this line have received from various sources.

[*English*]

Governing Council of Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage

641. SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the composition of the Governing Council of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage;

(b) the grants-in-aid sanctioned/disbursed by the Government to the Trust since its inception and the terms thereof;

(c) the loans sanctioned/disbursed by the Government to the Trust since its inception and the terms thereof;

(d) the contracts, if any awarded to the Trust by any Government Department or agency with brief particulars and values thereof; and

(e) the major achievements of the Trust since its inception?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library Sec. No. LT—2080/86]

Open University at Hyderabad

642. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether at the education Ministers Conference held in January, 1986, the Andhra Pradesh Government pressed their demand for getting the University Grants Commission recognition to Open University at Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Union Government to that demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the Andhra Pradesh Open University, Hyderabad, has been declared fit to receive Central assistance in terms of the rules framed under Section 12 B of UGC Act subject to the amendment of the Act of the University and receipt of an assurance from the University that it would use the balance amount of Rs. 87.84 lakhs on studies, library and academic buildings so

that the University has total permanent assets worth Rs. 2 crores.

Derailement of Goods Train on New Over-bridge on Krishna in Andhra Pradesh

644. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether derailment of a goods train took place on 13 January, 1986 on the new overbridge on Krishna river in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the derailment caused heavy damage to the railway track and the bridge on the river Krishna, if so the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry had been conducted into the cause of the accident and if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) what action has been taken to check such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The derailment occurred at 1.30 hrs. on 14th January, 1986, on the new bridge across the Krishna river near Vijayawada.

(b) Yes, Sir. The derailment caused heavy damage to railway track and the bridge. The cost of damage to track and the bridge is estimated to be Rs. 18,600/- and Rs. 2.45 lakhs respectively.

(c) An inter-departmental enquiry has been conducted into the accident. The cause of the accident has been determined by the Inquiry Committee as combination of wagon and track defects.

(d) (i) Intensification of train examination,

(ii) Improvement in maintenance of track including use of ultrasonic testing devices for detection of rail fractures,