

**Construction of Over-Bridge**

4150. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for the construction of an over-bridge on the Dharamshala railway bridge in Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether any survey had been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in construction through.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

**Export of Forest Wealth**

4151. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of forest wealth exported from Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years; and

(b) the foreign exchange earned by the Government thereby during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Forest produce is sold through public auction to highest bidder. Once the material is handed over to the purchaser, no record is maintained as to where and how the produce is utilized. Therefore it cannot be said with certainty the quantity of forest wealth which is exported from Uttar Pradesh. However, as per EXIM Policy 1992-97 the export of wood and wood products in the form of logs, timber, stumps, roots, bark, chips, powder, flakes, dust, pulp and charcoal is prohibited as per the entry at S.No. 7 of the negative list of exports, Part I, Para 158.

[English]

**M/s Span Motels**

4152. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has recommended de-leasing of forest land acquired by M/s Span Motels Private Limited on the banks of river beas in the Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Pursuant to the directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Central Pollution

Control Board constituted a Committee. The Committee has submitted its report to the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 12-6-1996. One of the recommendations made by the Committee in its report refers to the de-leasing of forest land acquired by M/s Span Motels Private Limited. The matter is sub-judice.

**World Bank Assistance for Railways**

4153. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have approached World Bank to provide assistance for the development of Railways;

(b) if so, the amount received from World Bank during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 till date; and

(c) the details of the works for which the amount thus received would be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Railways received assistance from the World Bank as under :

1994-95—US \$	25 620	million
1995-96—US \$	7 500	million
1996-97—US \$	2 324	million

(c) Railways received assistance for the Third Rail Modernization Project for rehabilitation, modernization of track on heavy density routes of Indian Railways and procurement of track machines like Tie Tamper, Ballast cleaner, Track stabilizer and Points-Crossing layer.

Railways have also received an advance from Project Preparatory Facility of the World Bank to meet the cost of Project Preparatory Studies for rail components of Mumbai Urban Transport Project II. These studies are (i) Financial and Institutional study for combined suburban rail operation in Mumbai; (ii) System Planning study and development of Simulation Model for Mumbai suburban system; (iii) Study to develop specification for Re-manufacture of existing EMUs of Mumbai suburban system; (iv) Study for conversion of DC to AC traction in Mumbai suburban services, respectively.

**Model Railway Stations**

4154. DR. A.K. PATEL :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI  
CHIKHALIA :  
SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' :  
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for developing some railway stations as Model railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such stations declared and converted into Model Railway Stations so far, State-wise;

(c) whether any such station has been converted in Gujarat State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which any of the station declared in the State is proposed to be converted into a model railway station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e) In the year 1986, a scheme was introduced to develop some railway stations as model stations. Under the scheme, 67 stations were selected. Works at 3 stations were dropped due to gauge conversion and only 64 stations were developed as such on the Indian Railways.

This scheme has since been discontinued

Railways do not maintain the information State-wise.

#### **Railway Projects in Vidarbha Region**

4155. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of new projects were announced as package for the people of Vidarbha Region in Maharashtra during 1995-96, and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of the development projects being launched in Vidarbha region and actual provision of funds made therefor during the current year, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. No such package was announced

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Rakes for Coal Movement**

4156. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :  
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coal based industries in the country especially Thermal Power Stations are experiencing great difficulty for want of adequate allotment of rakes for the coal movement from the pit-heads;

(b) whether there has been an unmanageable backlog at pit-heads due to non-availability/non-allotment of rakes for the coal movement; and

(c) if so, the additional steps being taken by the Railway authorities to clear the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

#### **Travelling Zoos**

4157. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of travelling zoos in the country;

(b) whether these travelling zoos have been found congenial for the conservation of wild life;

(c) whether these travelling zoos are legal and have the requisite permission from the Central Zoo Authority; and

(d) if not, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) The total number of travelling zoos in the country as per the record held in the Central Zoo Authority is 23.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). The 23 travelling zoos which had applied for recognition to the Central Zoo Authority, 19 zoos have been evaluated by the Central Zoo Authority. Out of these, 17 zoos have been refused recognition and have been directed to deposit scheduled animals being held by them to recognized zoos. 1 zoo has been asked to show cause as to why its recognition should not be refused. 1 zoo has been evaluated recently and is also being issued a show cause notice. The remaining 4 zoos have already stopped operation.

#### **Konkan Railway Project**

4158. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation has approached some foreign banks for the funds needed for completion of Konkan Railway, and

(b) if so, the details and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Konkan Railway Corporation has obtained Ministry of Finance sanction for raising a loan of 30 million US \$ through external commercial borrowings. The same is being syndicated by the Bank of America.

(b) The syndication is under process and is yet to be finalized.

#### **Electrification of Broad Gauge Line**

4159. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :