

Northern Railway, the travelling public is being put to avoidable hardships and have to wait for a minimum of one hour to get a ticket:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to bring down the time taken in issuing railway tickets and to improve upon the public service?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) It is only during the peak periods that the waiting time per passenger exceeds one hour at the reservation counters in metropolitan and major cities. During other parts of the year, the waiting time varies from 20 to 40 minutes at the reservation counters. At the booking counters, where unreserved tickets are sold the waiting time per passenger varies from 5 to 30 minutes from place to place and season to season.

(b) The waiting time during rush period increases on account of substantial increase in the demand for reservations.

(c) The steps taken by the Railways *inter alia* include expansion of the computerised locations, opening to satellite reservation offices, extension of the working hours of the reservation/booking counters and provision of additional reservation/booking counters.

Production of Diesel Engines

*192 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has taken place with a foreign country for the production of modern Diesel Engines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith allocation made and proposed location of the manufacturing units?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

In order to upgrade the technology and manufacture State-of-the-art locomotives in India, a global tender was floated and finalised in favour of M/s Electro Motive Division, General Motors Corporation, USA. These locomotives will be built at Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi (DLW). This contract is for supply of the latest technology alongwith 21 locos, including 8 locomotives in knocked down condition which will be assembled at DLW, Varanasi.

The letter of acceptance has been issued in July, '95. The price of transfer of technology is US \$ 17.5 million (Rs. 61 Cr) and the total cost of the 21 locomotives is US \$ 41 million (Rs. 143 Cr).

DLW is likely to commence assembly of the locomotives received in knocked down condition in April 1998 onwards. No allocations are made in 1996-97 since deliveries are expected only after March 1998.

Development of Oilseeds

*193 SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total Central assistance provided to each State for the development of oilseeds during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the area under oilseeds cultivation; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this direction particularly in the Karnataka State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A statement is enclosed

(b) and (c) A Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation in 22 States including Karnataka for increasing the production of oilseeds in the country. One of the strategies being adopted under oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is to increase the area under oilseeds cultivation through various measures like sequential cropping, inter-cropping, replacement of low economy crop and as substitute crop in problematic areas/situations

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	1436.55	1452.100	1413.39
2	Assam	155.743	231.850	165.02
3	Arunachal Pradesh	29.891	28.520	24.10
4	Bihar	69.12	N R	97.78
5	Gujarat	931.449	500.000	549.45
6	Haryana	160.81	N R	162.50
7	Himachal Pradesh	14.46	N R	29.23
8	Jammu and Kashmir	66.397	N R	N R
9	Karnataka	750.00	715.200	183.38
10	Kerala	N R	67.500	132.24
11	Madhya Pradesh	1005.849	1379.040	1144.43
12	Maharashtra	985.03	961.520	1032.27
13	Manipur	22.026	8.775	108.26
14	Meghalaya	15.825	7.500	6.00

1	2	3	4	5
15	Orissa	430 747	457 335	444 00
16	Punjab	187 500	64 000	7 60
17	Rajasthan	820 438	811 890	1332 50
18	Sikkim	55 857	52 723	49 68
19	Tamil Nadu	1425 00	1337 785	951 17
20	Tripura	67 276	11 500	21 09
21	Uttar Pradesh	193 24	511 900	730 21
22	West Bengal	224 792	225 000	205 70
Total		9040 00	8824 138	8820 00

* N.R. : Money not released

Influx of Infiltrators

*194. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether influx of infiltrators from across the borders of the country is still continuing;

(b) whether recent influx of foreigners is the main cause of tension in the North-East region of the country;

(c) whether the Government have evolved any fresh strategy to check influx of foreigners in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (e). In view of the very long land borders with neighbouring countries, and because of various push and pull factors, infiltration into the country, which is a serious and ongoing problem, continues though at a reduced rate. It is one of the causes of tension in the North Eastern region of the country. The Government of India has taken a serious note of the problem and has taken a series of measures to curb and prevent infiltration. These measures include, inter alia, the following :

(1) *Strengthening of the border Security force*

This includes

- (i) raising of additional battalions under the expansion plan of the Border Security Force;
- (ii) reducing gaps between the Border outposts;
- (iii) increase in the number of OP towers;
- (iv) provision of surveillance equipments and night vision devices; and
- (v) raising of riverine water wing of the Border Security Force

(2) *Fencing, Flood Lighting and Patrolling*

This includes

- (i) construction of border roads and fence on the Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh borders;
 - (ii) flood lighting in the sensitive stretches on the Indo-Pak border; and
 - (iii) intensification of patrolling along the border.
- (3) *Surveillance on the coastal area*

This includes

- (i) intensive surveillance by Naval vessels on the high seas;
- (ii) joint Coast Guard Navy surveillance in the territorial waters; and
- (iii) patrolling by joint detachments of Navy (Coast Guard), Customs and State Police through trawlers in the shallow water along the shore.

4. *Intelligence Gathering, Sharing and Coordination :*

Intelligence gathering is being constantly monitored to ensure that more and more pin-pointed and actionable intelligence is available. Mechanisms have been set up to share such information, promptly with the State Governments.

5 Other Measures :

There are schemes such as Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners (PIF) in Assam and Meghalaya and Mobile Task Force (MTF) in West Bengal and Tripura which are being implemented by the concerned States to detect infiltrations.

Standing instructions have been issued to the Border Security Force, State Governments and UT Administrations for detection and deportation of infiltrators.

Based on the reports received from the States of the North Eastern Region and West Bengal, Border Security Force and other agencies, a regular review is undertaken to monitor the situation on an on-going basis.

Use of Polythene Bags

*195. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Slow poisoning via polythene bags" which appeared in the "Statesman", dated June 5, 1996;