

Irrigation Facility in Assam

6706. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that due to want of irrigation facilities, a major part of cultivable land in Assam remains barren in the winter season ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to remove this difficulty of the cultivators of Assam ; and

(c) the amount allotted to Assam State during the Fourth Five Year Plan for minor irrigation and major irrigation separately ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) to (c). The importance of irrigation for multiple cropping in Assam, as elsewhere in the country has been recognised. During the Fourth Plan, provision of Rs. 6 crores and 4.9 crores has been made for expanding the facilities under minor irrigation and major and medium irrigation sectors respectively, for completing the on-going schemes and taking up new schemes.

Over-Staffing on Railways

6707. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Administrative Reforms Commission has observed that there is a high degree of over-staffing on the Railways ;

(b) if so, the exact observations made by the Commission ;

(c) the percentage of over-staffing in different Departments of the Railways ; and

(d) the action taken by Government on the observations of the Commission in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). The Study Team on Railways of the Administrative Reforms Commission in their Report has observed as follows :

"There has been a disproportionate increase in the staff in certain departments on certain Railways as indicated in para 17.03."

Para 17.03 referred to above is reproduced below :

"17.03. There has been a disproportionate increase in the staff in certain departments on certain railways as indicated below :

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|---------------------------------------|-----|--|
| (i) Administration | ... | Central, North Eastern and Western Railways. |
| (ii) Accounts | ... | North Eastern and Southern Railways. |
| (iii) Engineering (Ministerial staff) | ... | Central, North Eastern, Southern and South Eastern Railways. |
| (iv) Transportation | ... | Northern, North Eastern, Northeast Frontier and Southern Railways. |
| (v) Commercial | ... | North Eastern and Southern Railways. |
| (vi) Mechanical | ... | Central, Eastern and Northeast Frontier Railways. |
| (vii) Stores | ... | Central and Southern Railways." |

(c) The percentage of over-staffing has not been indicated in the above Report. For an exact determination of the percentage of over-staffing in different departments of the Railways, if any, a job analysis is required to be carried out.

(d) No job analysis to determine over-staffing, if any, has yet been undertaken by the Railways. The work involved is colossal. Several steps have been taken to mop off excess staff, if any, on the Railways. In addition, a rigid control has been introduced in the matter of the sanction of any extra staff for the operation of the Railways.

Change in Marking System of Parcels Containing Perishable Articles

6708 SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the consignments booked from Railway stations are to be marked with the Railway Marks ; and

(b) whether recently Railway Board has issued instructions making certain amendments in the Marking system ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes.

(b) Consignments are required to be marked by senders as well as by Railways. The Rule for marking by senders has been amended, but there has been no change in Rule for marking by Railways.

Consignments of Perishable Articles received at Delhi Junction

6709. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Markers on the roll of each Railway zone as on and after the recent change of the system of Marking ;

(b) whether Government are aware that 90 per cent parcels containing perishable articles are either not marked at all or marked by the merchants or their Dalals themselves ; and

(c) if not, the total number of consignments of perishable articles received at Delhi junction during January to June, 1971 (i) with full Railway marks ; and (ii) without Railway marks ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) There has

been no change in rules of Railway marking. Total number of markers on each Railway at present is—

Railway	Total Number of markers
Central	245
Eastern	250
Northern	348
North Eastern	57
Northeast Frontier	31
Southern	129
South Central	92
South Eastern	67
Western	290

(b) Parcels are required to be marked by senders as well as Railways. Some perishable packages are not fully marked according to Rules. In some cases, senders or their representatives willingly assist the railway staff in writing railway marks. Figures are not available to work out the percentage of such cases.

(c) During the period from January, 1971 to June 1971, 2,03,706 consignments of perishable goods were received at Delhi Main Station. These consignments comprised of 9,88,698 packages. Out of these, 9,86,338 packages were received with railway marks and the rest 2,360 packages were received without railway marks.

Study Report on the Work Load of Inspectors of Works on Railways

6710. SHRI RAM SWAROOP : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether implementation of Efficiency Bureau study report on the work