

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a new unit of Railway Protection Force at Jairam Nagar under Bilaspur division of South-Eastern Railway; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Railway Protection Force which is the reserve force in the RPF is distributed in the pattern of battalions and companies. There are 8 battalions of RPSF headquartered as given below :

- 1 Bn. - Lumding (Assam)
- 2 Bn. - Gorakhpur (U.P.)
- 3 Bn. - Lucknow (U.P.)
- 4 Bn. - New Jalpaiguri (W.B.)
- 5 Bn. - Tiruchirappalli (T.N.)
- 6 Bn. - Dayabasti, Delhi/35
- 7 Bn. - Moula Ali, Hyderabad (A.P.)
- 8 Bn. - Chittaranjan (W.B.)

Each Battalion has 5 operational companies and 1 Headquarter company. The operational companies are being deployed throughout the country wherever required as and when emergent situations arise.

The railway Protection Force is not organised in the pattern of battalions. The Force is deployed in the pattern of Posts and Outposts on need basis throughout the country wherever railway assets and installations are located.

(b) There is no proposal to set up a new unit of RPF at Jairam Nagar under Bilaspur Division of South Eastern Railway.

(c) Does not arise.

Stones in Devgauda Region of Madhya Pradesh

1983. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Devgauda region in Madhya Pradesh has rich deposits of precious alexandrite stone;

(b) whether since April, 1994 this precious stone worth crores of rupees has been sneaked out of the country via Orissa;

(c) whether the Government have enquired into this unauthorised mining ; and

(d) if so, outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Railway Projects

1984. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka to lay new Railway lines during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 as on September 30, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the name of the railway projects to be taken up during Eighth Five Year Plan in Karnataka; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on each of the project?

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

(b) Kottur-Harihar and Kadur-Chickmagalur-Sakleshpur lines have since been taken up. Survey report for Hubli-Ankola new line has been sent to Planning Commission and surveys have been completed for Hassan-Bangalore and Chamarajanagr-Mettupalayan new lines.

(c) and (d).

New Lines	Cost (Rs. in crs.)
1. Kottur-Harihar	66.00
2. Kadur-Chickmagalur-Shakleshpur Gauge Conversion	157.00
1. Bangalore-Hubli with Birur/Shimoga-Talguppa	405.00
2. Hospet-Hubli-Goa with linked fingers	571.58
3. Londa-Miraj	176.52
4. Gadag-Hospet	180.00
5. Yelahanka-Chickballapur and Kolar-Bangarpet	57.00
6. Yeshoantpur-Salem	195.18
7. Arsikere-Hassan-Mangalore	185.00
8. Mysore-Hassan	116.00
Doubling	
1. Kuppam-Whitefield	105.00
2. Bangalore-Kangeri	24.00

National Channel of AIR

1985. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT BACHDA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Fixed Point Chart of national channel of All India Radio, New Delhi has recently been revised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the duration of time allotted to various programmes per week.

(d) whether the said durations conform to the laid norms of AIR; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is the practice of All India Radio that the fixed Point Chart is revised twice a year.

(c) The time allotted to various programmes per week are as follows:

	<i>Minutes per week</i>
Sports	134
Financial	40
Science	30 mts. per month
Hindustani Music	360
Karnatak Music	320
Film Music	350

(d) and (e). These timings broadly conform to the norms laid down by All India Radio.

Railway Line between Palaghat-Pollachi and Guruvayoor

1986. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for laying new railway line from Palaghat-Pollachi to Guruvayoor under Madhura division in Southern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present stage of the proposed Guruvayoor-Kuttipuram railway line; and

(d) the time by which the work on above line is likely to be completed?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The work is sanctioned. Final location survey/land acquisition is in progress.

(d) Within the 9th Five Year Plan.

P&T Service in Bihar

1987. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether postal and telecom services are satisfactory in Bihar, particularly in Saran (Chapra region);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The Bihar State is being served by 11789 Post Offices, out of which 378 Post Offices are in Saran Distt. The Postal services are satisfactory in Bihar and in Saran (Chapra) Region.

(b) All Post Offices in Bihar including those in Saran Region are functioning satisfactorily in respect of Counter functioning Mails and delivery services.

(c) and (d). Does not arise in view of (b) above.

TELECOMMUNICATION :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details given in Statement.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Steps taken by the Govt. for further improvement of services:

(i) Replacement of old and worn out equipment.

(ii) Computerisation of fault repair service.

(iii) Replacement of fault prone cables by jelly field cables.

(iv) Laying of cables in ducts.

(v) Induction of modern testing aids.

(vi) Providing reliable transmission media.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Parameter	Achievements			
		As on 31.3.96 Circle/ Saran	Aug., 96 Circle/ Saran	Sept.,96 Circle/ Saran	Oct.,96 Circle/ Saran
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Fault/100stn/month.	12.9/7.0	11.7/7.9	12.0/5.3	12.1/3.0
2.	Trk. Bff.	78.2/69.2	80.7/73.0	81.1/75.3	80.8/75.7
3.	C.C.R.				
	(i) Local	81.8/98.6	76.5/95.7	76.3/97.7	75.4/99.0
	(ii) STD	73.9/74.0	71.1/73.8	69.6/65.0	69.9/66.0