

12.	Vietnam	Supply of spare parts for diesel locomotives	292.18 lakhs (Rs.)
13.	Srilanka	Supply of locomotive	33.00 lakhs (Rs.)
14.	Srilanka	Supply of locomotives	223.40 lakhs (Rs.)
15.	Vietnam	Supply of 4 BG locomotives	1953 lakhs (Rs.)
16.	Mozambique	Financial expertise	.176 m. US\$
17.	Botswana	Management Support Services	.252 m. US\$
18.	-do-	Management Accounts Services	.115 m. US\$
19.	-do-	Positioning of AGM (Infra)	.132 m. US\$
20.	Tanzania	General Management Service	.641 m. US\$
21.	Nepal	Costruction Management	248 lakhs (Rs.)
22.	Bhutan	Tender documents etc.	28 lakhs (Rs.)
23.	Nepal	Rehabilitation of bridges	10.10 lakhs (Rs.)
24.	Nepal	Enviroinment Study	7 lakhs (Rs.)
25.	Tanzania	Track renewal projects	.026 m. US\$
26.	Nepal	River Training works	25 lakhs (Rs.)
27.	Malaysia	Upgradation of railway bridges	.077 m. US\$
28.	Malaysia	Maintenance of coaches & wagons	.038 m. US\$
29.	Malaysia	Consultancy on short term	.090 m. US\$
30.	Jamaica	Techno-economic study	.152 m. US\$
31.	Tanzania	Road project	.140 m. US\$

**Operational Cost of Indian Airlines &
Air India**

(Rs. in crores)

*437. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the operational cost of Indian Airlines and Air India;

(b) if so, the percentage of total earnings of both the Airlines being spent on this head during the last one year;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action to reduce the expenditure; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The operating expenses, total earnings and percentage of operating expenses to total revenue of Indian Airlines and Air India during the year 1997-98 are as under :

	Indian Airlines	Air India
Operating Expenses	2939.10	4031.81
Total Revenue	3217.25	3988.36
Percentage of Operating Expenses to total Revenue	91.35	101.08

(c) and (d) Some steps taken by the two airlines to control expenditure and increase productivity are as follows:

Air India

- (i) Marketing efforts have been stepped up to generate additional revenue.
- (ii) Network rationalisation and consolidation with emphasis placed on route profitability.
- (iii) Reduction in expenditure on outside repairs of aircraft by undertaking more in-house repairs

- (iv) Several posts of India based officers abroad have been abolished in various departments.

Indian Airlines

- (i) Closure of off-line stations and reduction in the number of booking offices.
- (ii) Ban on recruitment, unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons.
- (iii) Drastic cut in the expenditure on office buildings.
- (iv) Freeze on capital expenditure unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons.
- (v) Reduction in frequencies of loss making routes.

Defective Cartridges supplied by Khamaria Ordnance Factory

*438. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air Headquarter declared 1.08 lakh cartridges supplied by Ordnance Factory Khamaria during 1990-93 unfit for the intended use of training of aircrew in fighter aircraft;

(b) if so, the details of the defects identified, value of the cartridges declared unfit and the authority that cleared the use of sub-standard material for the manufacture of cartridges; and

(c) the steps proposed to initiate to ensure quality control in the products manufactured by the Ordnance Factories ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Out of 7.18 lakh rounds supplied to Air Force upto 1993, 96,683 rounds of ammunition valued at Rs. 2.53 crores were declared unfit for the intended use of training of aircrew on fighter aircraft. Indian Air Force have subsequently cleared the use of these cartridges for the training of air crew from IL-76 aircraft.

The enquiry conducted by Air Headquarters identified the defect as 'splintering of shells' and attributed the reason to shell material. All these 7.18 lakh rounds were manufacture using substitute steel material SSE-30 for shells in place of the material specified by the foreign collaborator due to its non-availability from the indigenous sources. The use of this substitute material was authorised by Directorate of Technical Development and Production (Air), now Directorate General Aeronautical Quality Assurance (Air) [DGAQA(Air)] as the inspection agency as well as Authority Holding Sealed Particulars (AHSP). Even

while the substitute material was in use, efforts to develop the material to original specifications were being made concurrently.

Pursuant to the enquiry and as per the directives of DGAQA(Air), the use of substitute material was discontinued. Meanwhile steel to collaborator's specification was developed indigenously, which has been in use, defect free, since 1993-94 onwards.

[Translation]

Construction of Roads in Border Areas

*439. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the length of the road required to be constructed along the border to check infiltration and crimes effectively in the border areas;

(b) the progress made in regard to repair and maintenance of on-going construction in Tripura and Manipur areas of eastern border; and

(c) the time schedule fixed for its completion ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Ticket agents in Indian Airlines

*440. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether ticket agents in the Indian Airlines owe to Indian Airlines crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Indian Airlines to recover the outstanding amount from these agents;

(d) whether any action has so far been taken against the defaulting agents;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is a proposal to give these agencies to the educated unemployed youths; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As on 30th June, 1998 Indian Airlines