

Production of Aluminium

4344. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the production of aluminium in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the production by Bharat Aluminium Company Limited and National Aluminium Company Limited has declined;

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the production of aluminium ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) The production of aluminium in the country during the last three years is as under :

Name of Company	Unit in Tonnes		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Madras Aluminium Co. Ltd.	15401	22959	25853
Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd.	91240	91564	88198
Indian Aluminium Co. Ltd.	54084	37370	38790
Hindustan Aluminium Co. Ltd.	175398	166272	200304
National Aluminium Co. Ltd.	192288	203823	200162
Total	528411	521988	553307

(b) and (c) Production of aluminium by Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) and National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) during 1997-98 has declined slightly as compared to 1996-97. In case of NALCO, the decline in production was because of operating less number of pots on account of shortage of anodes. In case of BALCO, the main reason for decline in production was the break down in one of the generating units of BALCO's captive power plant which supplies power to the smelter.

(d) The performance of NALCO and BALCO is constantly reviewed by the Government and remedial measures suggested to the Company wherever required.

Construction of Over Bridges

4345. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN :
SHRI MANJUNATH AYANUR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to construct over bridges at Railway Crossings near Dera Bassi (Northern Railway), Punjab and near Shimoga (Southern Railway), Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the construction work on the above bridges are likely to be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) The construction of Road Over Bridge at Dera Bassi, at Km. 229/10-11 on Ambala-Kalka section is being taken up by Punjab Govt. on built, operate and transfer scheme. The construction of Road Over Bridge at Km. 62/11-12 between Shimoga and Shimoga town in lieu of existing busy level crossing, qualifies for replacement on cost sharing basis but the State Govt. has not yet sponsored the proposal required under extant rules even after repeated requests.

(c) No target could be fixed.

[Translation]

Construction of Bridge over River Saryu at Ayodhya

4346. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foundation stone of railway bridge to be constructed on river Saryu in Ayodhya, Faizabad (Uttar Pradesh) had been laid;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during the current financial year; and

(d) the time by which the construction of above bridge is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project is likely to cost about Rs. 51.26 crores.

(c) Rs. 10 crores.