

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.

(d) The bridge is likely to be completed in a period of 3 years, subject to availability of resources.

[English]

**Government Accommodation in
Guwahati**

4347. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government employees posted at Guwahati and other towns of Assam are facing hardship for want of Government accommodation;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of Government flats constructed at Guwahati and other towns of Assam during the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to build more flats for its employees posted there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT. (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are 1899 Central Government employees at Guwahati eligible for General Pool accommodation.

(c) and (d) No General Pool accommodation has been constructed at Guwahati during the last three years. However, 136 quarters of various types are presently under construction at Guwahati.

**Lounge Facilities at Lakheempur
Airport (Assam)**

4348. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether proper arrival and departure lounge facility is available at Lakheempur Airport (Assam); and

(b) if not the steps proposed to be taken to provide this facility there ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The existing terminal building is suitable to cater to the needs of 50 passengers only. Hence, Airports Authority of India has taken up the work for construction of new terminal building with all modern amenities at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.47 crores. It will cater to 300 passengers at a time and the target date of completion is July, 1999.

**Allotment of Govt. Accommodation to
Artists**

4349. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Estates allots accommodation to artists on the recommendations of the Departments of Culture;

(b) whether some Artists who have been allotted accommodation are being asked to vacate the premises; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons there-
for ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) Directorate of Estates allots houses to artists only with the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation.

(c) Allotments in respect of 39 artists have been cancelled after expiry of the period of the allotment. Under the revised guidelines dated 17.11.97 allotments made to private persons including eminent artists are valid only upto the end of their current allotment period. Further, discretionary allotments in such cases, as per these guidelines, may be made if it is considered necessary in national interest or for meeting international obligations, with the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation.

**Contaminated Food Served in Railway
Canteen at Tughlakabad**

4350. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of railway employees fallen ill due to food poisoning after taking lunch at railway canteen in Tughlakabad as reported in "The Statesman" dated June 19, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the quality of food etc., in various railway canteens are found to be highly substandard and unhygienic; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide safe food in canteens and fix responsibility for those who shows laxity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF