

1	2	3
Southern Railway	461.19	192.62
South Central Railway	239.43	121.60
South Eastern Railway	70.82	55.40
Western Railway	72.58	158.00
Total	1245.61	802.99

Defence Team to Russia

831. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russian Government has been pressurised by the US to end military ties with India;

(b) if so, the response of the French Government thereon;

(c) whether a high level Indian Defence team visited Moscow recently for a meeting of the Indo-Russian joint working group on military technical cooperation;

(d) if so, the details of discussions held there; and

(e) the outcome therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Government has seen unsubstantiated media reports to this effect.

(b) Government is not aware of any official reaction of the French Government in this regard.

(c) to (e) In connection with the fifth meeting of the Indo-Russian Group on Military-Technical Co-operation a delegation led by Defence Secretary and consisting of senior officers from the armed forces and the Ministry of Defence visited Moscow from November 10-12, 1998. The Joint Working Group is responsible for reviewing and monitoring the progress of the implementation of the on-going long-term programme of military-technical co-

operation between the two countries. It will not be in the interest of national security to disclose details of discussions held during the joint meeting.

Use of Substandard Material in Construction

832. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the roof plaster of the newly constructed building of Balasore Railway Station has started falling;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct an inquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the time by which the inquiry is likely to be conducted?

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) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Crash of IAF Plane near Calcutta

833. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Air Force Plane crashed over two other stationary aircraft while landing at Kalaikunda Airbase near Calcutta on August 31, 1998;