

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) During 1998-99, there have been five such incidents. Four of these incidents have taken place in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. The main reason for these incidents is the combat stress due to the peculiarities of counter insurgency environment which are different from operational tasks in the battlefield. To keep the combat stress at the barest minimum level, continuous efforts are made like planning proper relief programme constant education and close interaction between commanders and the troops.

[Translation]

Doubling and Electrification of Surat-Bhusawal Rail Line

3409. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether doubling and electrification work on Surat-Bhusawal rail line has been going on for long;

(b) if so, the date on which the above works started and the extent of works completed so far along with the amount spent thereon so far;

(c) the time by which the above works are likely to be completed and the estimated amount to be incurred thereon;

(d) whether the time prescribed for the above works has already elapsed; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not completing the work in time?

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) The electrification work on Surat (Udhna)-Bhusawal (Jalgaon) was included in Railway Budget 1997-98. After sanction of estimate etc. process of awarding major contracts was taken in hand. OHE contracts have since been awarded. Rs. 12.14 crores have been spent so far on this project.

A survey for doubling of Udhna-Jalgaon has been taken up. Further consideration of the doubling project

will be possible once the survey report becomes available. A double and Electrified BG line already exists for Surat-Udhna and Bhusawal-Jalgaon sections.

(c) The Railway Electrification project is targetted for completion in the 10th Plan. The work has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 138.12 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Abandoned Chennai-Singapore Flights

3410. SHRI RAJ BANSHI MAHTO :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines crew abandoned the Chennai-Singapore flight sometime in the last week of September, 1998;

(b) if so, the outcome of the inquiry, if any, made by the Government in the matter; and

(c) the action that has been taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The aircraft operating scheduled flight IC-555 on 26.9.1998 was to depart at 0025 hours. Since a single step ladder was available, the passengers took some time to board the aircraft. Consequently, the cabin crew and commander of the flight came under flight and Duty Time Limitation. As such, the flight was operated by another set of crew after a delay of two hours and 55 minutes.

Fruit Processing Industries with Foreign Collaboration

3411. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set-up fruit processing industries with foreign collaboration in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(c) the assistance provided to fruit processing units in Uttar Pradesh during each of the last two years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN):
(a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government do not set up fruit processing units directly in any of the States.

(c) The assistance provided to fruit and vegetable processing units in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years by the Ministry is as under :—

1997-98	—	Rs. 13.75 lakhs as grant
1998-99	—	Nil

In addition, the following assistance in the form of loan has been provided to fruit processing units in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years by National Horticultural Board, under their Scheme "Development of Marketing of Horticultural Produce through Participation in Soft Loan".

1997-98	Rs. 160.00 lakhs (released)
	Rs. 33.50 lakhs (sanctioned)
1998-99	Rs. 60.00 lakhs (sanctioned)

[Translation]

Laying of Railway Lines

3412. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is lying pending with the Government to lay rail line to connect Betiya, Arval, Daud Nagar, Aurangabad, Chatarpur and Pali;

(b) if so, the present status of the project;

(c) whether any time limit has been fixed to complete this work; 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) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Constraint of resources.

[English]

Revised Pay Scales for Librarian In I.H.M.C.T.

3413. SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Librarians in various Institutes of Hotel Management and Catering Technology and National Council of Hotel Management and Catering Technology are being given the scales as per the recommendation of Fifth Pay Commission.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any disparity between the Pay Scales given to Librarians of Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology and National Council of Hotel Management and Catering Technology;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to remove the disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Revised Pay Scales have been given to librarian in the Institutes of Hotel Management and National Council for Hotel Management corresponding to the pre-revised scales held by them.

(c) to (e) National Council for Hotel Management and Institutes of Hotel Management have separate entities and different functions requiring staffing of different nature. Question of disparity therefore does not arise.