

**IRCON :**

- Construction of a new railway siding for NTPC's Thermal Power Plant at Simadhari (near Vishakhapatnam) in Andhra Pradesh
- Construction of Qazigund-Srinagar-Baramula new B.G. railway line in the Jammu and Kashmir.

*Railways*

**Consultancy Services by RITES**

3654. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether RITES has started providing consultancy services for certification in ISO 14000 on environmental management systems; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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) and (b) Yes, Sir. RITES is actively involved in providing consultancy services on Environmental Management System for certification to ISO 14001 standard. M/s Godrej Soaps Ltd, Malanpur, MP has achieved certification based on RITES consultancy support. Consultancy in ISO 14001 system is presently being provided to following organisations :

1. Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala.
2. Hi-Tech Carbon, Goodmdipundi, Tamil Nadu.
3. LG Electronics India Pvt. Ltd., Greater Noida.
4. M/s Gwalior Polipines Ltd., Gwalior.

*Railways*

**Circular Train from Kamptee to Ambajhari**

3655. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a policy decision to start local railway service in big cities having population of more than 10 lakhs;

(b) if so, the names of such cities where the government proposed to start the local railway service;

(c) whether the Government propose to start Circular Trains in Nagpur; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*Air Accidents*

**Crash of AN-32**

3656. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IAF AN-32 aircraft crashed in Delhi on March 7, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of officers and civilians killed therein;

(c) whether the inquiry committee set up in this regard has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether compensation has been paid to kith and kin of the crew members and the civilians died in this accident; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An AN-32 aircraft met with an accident on 7.3.99 near IGI Airport in which 18 Air Force Personnel on Board and three civilians on ground sustained fatal injuries.

(c) and (d) A Court of inquiry ordered in this regard is still in progress.

(e) and (f) Compensation claims of the next of kins of those killed in the accident are being processed. However, an ex-gratia, interim relief has been paid to the next of kins of the civilians killed,

as given below :-

| Killed   | Number | Rate of Payment | Total Amount (Rs.) |
|----------|--------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Adult    | 1      | @ Rs. 10,000    | 10,000             |
| Children | 2      | @ Rs. 5,000     | 10,000             |

159 *Entertainment Industry*  
Incentives for Entertainment Industries

3657. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- whether his Ministry propose to give any incentives to entertainment industries;
- if so, whether his Ministry has made a number of proposals to be Finance Ministry over this issue;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the present status of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) and (d) It is the view of this Ministry that in order to tap the full potential of the entertainment sector, as a foreign exchange earner and for generating employment opportunities, the entertainment sector must be given parity with the Information Technology sector so that all benefits available to the Information Technology (I.T.) sector are extended to the entertainment sector as well. The proposals submitted to the Ministry of Finance in this regard are :-

- Rate of customs duty on professional equipment for films, television and music industry may be similar to the duty structure laid down for the I.T. sector.
- Customs duty and countervailing duty on colour raw stock (including positive and negative film rolls) be waived as it is not manufactured in India.
- Exemption from payment of Excise duty on pre-recorded video cassettes may be given with retrospective effect.
- Excise duty on compact discs be waived, as has been done in the case of pre-recorded cassettes. This will serve to deprive manufacturers of pirated CDs of an unfair price advantage.

(v) Extending the benefit of Section 80-1A of the Income Tax Act to Cinema halls and multiplexes set up within the country.

(vi) Benefits of the new Section 80 HHF, announced in the Budget for the year 1999-2000, to be applicable also to proprietors, individuals etc. engaged in the export of entertainment software and that such benefits be available with retrospective effect.

170 *Reference*  
Test Firing of Agni

3658. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Army to operate own revenue expenditure" appearing in *The Times of India*, dated March 20, 1999;
- if so, the facts thereof; and
- the time by which the test firing of "Agni" missile is likely to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The review of administrative and financial procedures for more delegation of powers to Services is an ongoing process. Enhanced powers have been delegated to the Army in the recent past for the procurement of Stores, Construction Work, Information Technology, etc. Besides large scale financial delegation, Procurement Planning Boards separately for Revenue and Capital acquisitions have also been constituted with a view to expediting the procurement process.

(c) "Agni" has been test fired on 11th April, 1999.

170 *Food Processing Industries*  
FPI with Foreign Collaboration in Kerala

3659. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- whether the Government of Kerala propose to set up fruit processing industries with foreign collaboration; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) Kerala Horticulture Development Programme (KHDP), under the Government of Kerala, has set up a Fruit Processing Factory at Nadukkara near Muvattupuzha in