

(a) Whether his Ministry is considering to ban the polyurethane /plastics/polymer items to be used for cushions for seats;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) Whether his Ministry has any mechanism to destroy waste plastics /plastic goods/plastic bags; 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) and (d) Waste collected while sweeping trains is disposed alongwith municipal waste and at smaller depots, it is burnt at the depots.

[Translation]

Developmental Work in Cantonment Areas

3012. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes started by the Government for the development of cantonment areas; and

(b) the expenditure incurred for the development of cantonment areas during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) In addition to undertaking development schemes from their own resources, the various deficit cantonments are provided grant-in-aid by the central Government for development purposes. The cantonment Boards have undertaken water supply, development of roads, buildings, conversion of dry-type latrines to water-borne and other miscellaneous developments.

(b) The details of the expenditure incurred on development works in the 62 Cantonments during last three years are as under :

Year	Total expenditure on development works including special grant-in-aid
1995-96	10,14,77,491.000
1996-97	18,74,09,995.000
1997-98	12,12,27,773.000

[English]

Doubling of Sambalpur-Titlagarh Railway Line

3013. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to double Sambalpur-Titlagarh railway line;

(b) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken; and

(c) 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) to (c) A survey for doubling of Jhorouguda-Sambalpur-Titlagarh rail line has been taken up and the report is expected by 31-12-1998. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

Haj Pilgrimage

3014. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) details of expenditure incurred by the Union Government for the Haj pilgrimage;

(b) whether Air India has also suffered losses on this accounts; and

(c) if so, the details of such losses suffered during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) During 1998-99, a provision of Rs. 122.50 crores has been made in the budget for subsidy on Haj 1998.

(b) No, Sir. The difference in the cost of operation and Haj pilgrim fare is given as a subsidy by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Development of Guntakal Railway Division

3015. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several Member of Parliament have urged the Government to take up the development of the neglected Guntakal Railway division; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

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 division of