

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has already airlinked Ahmedabad to Pune by thrice weekly B-737 services, operating on Calcutta/Ahmedabad/Pune/Bangalore/Chennai route

Telecommunication Network

3109. SHRI R.S. GAVAI Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunication has served a notice to Indian Railways that it would not be maintaining the railway telecommunication line in future;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any appeal is pending with Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to sort out the differences;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Railways has made an alternative arrangements to maintain its telecommunication network?

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) Some of the Railways had approached Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) seeking their assistance in getting better services from the Department of Telecommunication (DOT). A tripartite meeting between DOT, Railways and TRAI was arranged by the TRAI in which the need for improved maintenance and difficulties in maintenance of circuits were discussed. DOT agreed to make efforts to improve the maintenance of circuits.

(e) Does not arise

[Translation]

Curtailment of Expenditure

3110. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received instructions from the Ministry of Finance in regard to cut-short the number of employees and the salary emoluments including other expenditure; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government 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) Yes, Sir. This Ministry has received instructions from Ministry of Finance regarding economy in Government expenditure, which interalia, contain the direction that the vacancies arising may be filled in such a manner that while the promotional avenues of the existing employees are not adversely affected, the vacant posts of the lower level in the hierarchy are abolished to the maximum possible extent. These instructions also call for a 10% mandatory cut on non-salary secretariat expenditure i.e. on Travelling Allowance, Office Expenses, Petroleum Oil Lubricants, Over Time Allowance, Honorarium etc.

(b) This Ministry has conveyed these instructions to the concerned units for compliance.

[English]

Sale of Land by DDA.

3111. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Development Authority has sold land to the cultural, social, commercial and educational institutions during the last the three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the price of the land sold has been reckoned less than its market value;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the procedures followed to keep the price less?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) The DDA has reported that details of land allotted to cultural, social and educational institutions by DDA during the last 3 years is as follows :

1995-96	-	131 nos. (Approx.)
1996-97	-	130 nos. (")
1997-98	-	136 nos. (")

Similarly, DDA has sold out 147 nos. of commercial plots through public auction out of which possession of 7 plots has not been handed over due to Court case.

(c) to (e) The rate of institutional land is fixed by the Government keeping in view the objectives of the institutions. So far as commercial properties are concerned, reserve price for the property is fixed and property sold through auction