

(b) if so, the increase in the number of tourists in 1996 in comparison to 1995;

(c) the income earned by Madhya Pradesh from the visits of foreign tourists to Khajuraho Temple;

(d) whether with a view to attend more foreign tourists the Government have formulated any scheme to provide more facilities to them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) According to the statistics available from the State Government, the number of foreign tourists visiting Khajuraho registered an increase of about 15.5% during 1996 over the previous year.

(c) The income from tourists are not estimated place-wise.

(d) and (e) The development of tourist facilities at any particular place is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. However, a sum of Rs. 30.79 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Central Department of Tourism for the construction of a Tourist Reception Centre at Khajuraho during 1990-91.

Termination of Services under Wage Payment Act

950. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :
SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases regarding termination of services under Wage Payment Act, 1936 Minimum Wage Act, 1948 and Workers Compensation Act, 1923 have been filed by the workers/representatives of the workers in labour office of NOIDA industrial centre of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Special Reservation Facilities to Foreign Tourists

951. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide special reservation facilities to the foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) Special reservation facilities are being provided by Indian Airlines to Foreign Tourists for their travel within India which include confirmed bookings upto the limit of 400 seats to all Foreign Tourists groups and individuals seeking reservation upto 60 days prior to departure of the first flight except on international sectors and on flights to/from Port Blair, Leh, North Eastern Sector on domestic network.

Indian Railways also provide special reservation facilities for foreign tourists visiting India.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Gauge Conversion in Tamil Nadu

952. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :
SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of rail lines being converted into broad gauge in Tamil Nadu, project-wise;

(b) the total funds sanctioned for gauge conversion in Tamil Nadu during the current financial year;

(c) the total funds utilised and rail lines converted into broad gauge, so far project-wise;

(d) the steps taken for converting the rail lines between Thanjavur and Chennai beach;

(e) the time by which the complete rail track is likely to be converted into broad gauge; and

(f) the total funds released for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

(d) to (f) Gauge Conversion of Madras Beach - Tiruchchirappalli and Tiruchchirappalli - Thanjavur - Nagore-Karaikal railway lines has been taken up. These works are now likely to be completed by March' 98 and Dec.'98 respectively. Outlay for these works in 96-97 was Rs. 100 crores and in 97-98 it is Rs. 144 crs.

Statement

(Rupees in Crores)

S.No.	Project	kms.	Cost	Outlay for 1996-97	Funds utilised upto 31.03.96	Distance converted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Madras Beach-Tiruchchirappalli-Dindigul	340	300.00	75.00	100.40	Madras Beach-Tambaram (27kms)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Tiruchchirappalli- Thanjavur-Nagore-Karaikal	200	109.00	2300	17.00	-
3.	Tuticorin-Dindigul (Madurai-Dindigul parallel BG)	198	-	-	-	Completed.
4.	Yeshwantpur-Hossur (46 kms.)	26	-	-	-	Completed.
5.	Hossur-Salem	151	-	-	-	Completed.

[Translation]

Construction of Overbridge

953. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of railway crossings in Satna district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of such crossing on which underbridges or overbridges are proposed to be constructed; and

(c) the reasons for not constructing such bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) 57 Nos.

(b) 2 Nos.

(c) Those level crossings which qualify for replacement on cost sharing basis between railway and State Government have to be sponsored by the State Government. Others have to be proposed by the State Government on deposit terms. No such further proposals have been received.

[English]

Serials

954. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI SANAT MEHTA :
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of serials approved by the Government/Doordarshan for telecast during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of serials so approved and telecast on National Network;

(c) the details of approved serials not telecast so far;

(d) the details of serials pending for approval;

(e) the time by which all the pending serials are likely to be approved and telecast;

(f) whether serials for this year have also been selected;

(g) whether complaints have been received regarding approval of serials; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Amount Outstanding against AI

955. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of oil taken on credit by the Air India from Bharat Petroleum and Indian Oil Companies during the last six months and the outstanding amount to be paid by Air India to the above companies for the earlier period; and

(b) the time by which the said amount is likely to be paid to these companies?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) From May to October, 1996, Air India bought 79379 KLS Air Turbine Fuel (ATF) from Indian Oil and 35792 KLS ATF from Bharat Petroleum. The amount payable (as on 24.2.97) to Indian Oil and Bharat Petroleum is Rs. 58.21 crores and Rs. 23.09 crores respectively. These outstandings are likely to be paid by Air India in the next about eight months.

[English]

Kamalpur Post Office in U.P.

956. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kamalpur post office of Kanpur city, Uttar Pradesh is lying closed almost every day for a month;

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

(c) whether the post master is unable to open the post office daily as he has to attend the district magistrates, thereby causing lot of inconvenience to the village; and