

relating to all aspects of manufacturing and marketing of steel like production, consumption, marketing, sales, imports and exports, infrastructural facilities like rail transport, ports, coal, power, and trade information about the international market; service the information needs of the industry and the Govt. through continuous interaction with the various steel consumers/consumer associations and steel producers/associations and traders; act as the secretariat for the management of Steel Development Fund; receive and evaluate the annual tariff proposals from the industry by interacting with them and make suitable recommendations in this regard to Ministry of Steel, etc. The Committee has also made recommendations about the redefining of role and redesigning of activities of the Economic Research Unit of the JPC with a view to utilise the available human resource and expertise.

The recommendations made by the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

Running Cost of Diesel and Electric Engines

*271. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the comparative per kilometre running cost of a diesel rail engine and electric rail engine at present;

(b) the length of total railway route electrified in the country during each of the last three years and upto December 31, 1996; and

(c) the length of railway route proposed to be electrified during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The comparative cost of running per 1000 Gross Tonne Kilometre of Diesel and Electric traction on Broad Gauge for the year 1994-95 (latest available) is :

| | (Figs. in Rs) | |
|----------|---------------|---------|
| | Passenger | Freight |
| Diesel | 99.58 | 65.51 |
| Electric | 94.33 | 52.37 |

| NATIONALITY | 1994 | 1995 | 1996* | Percentage 1995/94 | Change 1996/95 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| U.K. | 300696 | 334827 | 364964 | 11.4 | 9.0 |
| Bangladesh | 282271 | 318474 | 322355 | 12.8 | 1.2 |
| U.S.A. | 176482 | 203343 | 224772 | 15.2 | 10.5 |
| Sri Lanka | 89009 | 114157 | 107722 | 28.3 | -5.6 |
| Germany | 85352 | 89040 | 99593 | 4.3 | 11.9 |
| Japan | 63398 | 76042 | 95412 | 19.9 | 25.5 |
| France | 73088 | 82349 | 94581 | 12.7 | 14.9 |
| Canada | 56441 | 63821 | 72299 | 13.1 | 13.3 |

(b) Route Kilometres electrified during the last 3 year as under:

| | |
|---------|----------|
| 1993-94 | 505 Kms. |
| 1994-95 | 473 Kms. |
| 1995-96 | 609 Kms. |

Total route kilometre electrified up to 31st December, 1996 is 13085.

(c) The Ninth Five Year Plan for the railways is under finalisation by the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

Foreign Tourists

*272. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of those countries from which the number of tourists have increased;

(b) the names of countries from where tourists visit the country in less number;

(c) whether any special steps have been taken to encourage the tourism with those countries from where tourists visit in less number; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) The tourist arrivals from each of the countries in the descending order of magnitude are given below:

(c) and (d) In view of limited resources available, overseas publicity and promotion is mainly confined to markets with high potential. However, efforts are being made to tap new and emerging markets by relocating some of the field officers of the Department of Tourism.