

1	2	3
6.	Solapur	95
7.	Satara	75
8.	Sangli	13
9.	Ratnagiri	65
10.	Sindhudurg	—
11.	Ahmednagar	119
12.	Aurangabad	59
13.	Jalna	33
14.	Latur	50
15.	Osmanabad	33
16.	Nanded	51
17.	Parbhani	24
18.	Beed	45
19.	Pune	22
20.	Nagpur	30
21.	Kalyan	14
22.	Akola	9
23.	Amaravati	18
24.	Bhandara	27
25.	Buldhana	57
26.	Chandrapur	25
27.	Gadchiroli	4
28.	Wardha	21
29.	Yeotmal	27
Total		1103

Investment of P.F.

2878. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bajaj Electricals Limited, Mumbai has been diverting the employees provident fund account towards the company's own investments without any sanction of the concerned authorities;

(b) whether the company is also not releasing the provident funds to its erstwhile employees despite demands;

(c) whether the company has not yet taken any action to enforce pensionary rules for its employees; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) No such irregularity on part of this company has come to notice.

(d) Does not arise.

Expansion of Railway Stations in Kerala

2879. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some representations for modernisation/expansion of the Kayamkulam, Mavelika Chengannur and Therubali Railways stations in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan proposed by the Government for the development of these Railway Stations during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Representation from the Honourable member has been received for the modernisation of Kayankulam, Mavelikara, Chengannur and Tiruvalla stations.

(c) The works of raising of platform No 1, extension of shelter on platform 2/3, remodelling of station building and improvements and facelifting of the station building and provision of waiting hall facilities have been taken up at Kayankulam at a cost of Rs. 54.75 lakh and are expected to be completed during 1997-98. Works of raising of platform No. 2 and extension of shelter on platform No. 2 has been taken up at Mavelikara at a cost of Rs 21.63 lakh and are expected to be completed during 1997-98. Work of extension of shelter on platform No 2 at cost of Rs. 4.45 lakh has been taken up at Chengannur and is expected for completion during 1997-98. There are no works at Tiruvalla at present.

Increase in Quota of Higher Class and Sleeper Class

2880. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to increase the quota of higher class and sleeper class in all the trains at Bardhaman, Panagarh, Raniganj, Durgapur, Asansol to accommodate more rail users from these stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if nor, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Raniganj, Durgapur and Asansol Stations have been provided with the Computerised Reservation facilities. As such, at these

stations reserved accommodation can be booked not only against the station quota but also from the originating station quota after their quota is exhausted. At Bardhaman, the computerised reservation facility is likely to be provided shortly and with the commissioning of this facility, the station will have the same facility as are available at Raniganj, Durgapur and Asansol stations. At Panagarh, the existing quota is not being fully utilised and as such, the same is considered adequate.

Konkan Railway

2881. SHRI A.C. JOS :
SHRI A.G.C. RAM BABU :
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the work of Konkan Railway Project;

(b) the details of unfinished tunnel work;

(c) the sections which have been opened or proposed to be opened for passengers/goods traffic;

(d) the reasons for the delay in starting the passengers traffic; and

(e) the time by which the full project of Konkan Railway is likely to be completed and the States which are the main beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The weighted Physical Progress of work till end of 28th February 1997 is 98.20%

(b) The present status of unfinished tunnels is as under:

	Length (Mtrs.)	Balance Heading (Mtrs)	Works Benching (Mtrs.)	Target date for completion
Byndoor	1960	3.0	15.0	31.3.97
Padi	1915	-	60.0	30.4.97
Old Goa	542	-	144.0	31.5.96
Pernem	1534	282.0	539.0	31.6.97

(c) and (e) Roha-Sawantwadi (364 Kms.) and Mangalore-Kundapura (100Kms) have already been commissioned. Kundapura-Canacona section is expected to be commissioned by 30.4.97. The entire length of Konkan Railways is expected to be opened for goods traffic by June '97 and for passenger traffic immediately

thereafter, subject to the Pernem Tunnel being completed as per the targets mentioned at (b) above.

The main beneficiary States are Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka and Kerala.

(d) The main reasons for delay is constraints of resources and adverse geological conditions in softsoil tunnels in Goa and Karnataka area.

Winding up of ITDC

2882. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since taken any decision to wind up the India Tourism Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether new hotels will be constructed at Calcutta and any other places of West Bengal under this organisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) ITDC's Annual Plan for 1997-98 does not include any scheme/provision to set-up new hotels in the state of West Bengal, including Calcutta.

Telephone Exchanges in West Bengal

2883. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for opening of more Telephone Exchanges in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; district-wise, location-wise; and

(c) steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The commissioning programme for 1997-98 has yet not been finalised.

Air Services to Jalpaiguri

2884. PROF. JITENDRANATH DAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to connect Jalpaiguri with air service;