

[Translation]

Rice Research Centre

3945. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the names of rice producing areas of Rajasthan;
- (b) whether the Government are considering to set up a Rice Research Centre in Kota-Bundi;
- (c) if so, the time by which it is proposed to be set up; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for not setting up the Centre at Kota-Bundi while there is a vast scope of production of the fine quality rice?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The major rice producing areas of Rajasthan are the districts of Banswara, Dungarpur, Kota-Bundi, Udaipur, Chittorgarh and Sriganganagar.

- (b) There is already a centre of All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project (ICAR) in operation at Agriculture Research Station, Kota under Rajasthan Agriculture University.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Bankura Damodar Railway

3946. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to run Bankura Damodar Railway train of the South Eastern Railway by diesel engine; and
- (b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Sir, the Bankura-Damodar Railway is a privately owned Railway and is not a part of the South Eastern Railway. The Government does not propose to run the Bankura-Damodar Railway train by Diesel engine.

- (b) Does not arise.

Dolphin Population

3947. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any study has been made on the Dolphin population in the Indian waters;
- (b) if so, the details of findings thereof;
- (c) whether cases of killing of Dolphins are being reported;
- (d) if so, the details of such reports during 1995 and 1996 till date; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the 1991 report of a survey conducted by the Zoological Survey of India, the Dolphins are most seen in the Chambal, Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers of India. They have estimated a population of river Dolphin as 500-750 in Ganges and its tributaries, 500 in Brahmaputra, 43-47 in Chambal and 3000-3500 in estuarine belt.

- (c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Unreserved Coaches

3948. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 92 dated July 16, 1996 and state :

- (a) the time by which and the destinations from where the short distance stopping trains with unreserved coaches are proposed to be introduced; and
- (b) the names of the trains to which additional unreserved coaches are proposed to be attached?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Introduction of trains is a continuous process on the Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources. However, following short distance passenger trains are proposed to be introduced during 1996-97 :

1. A shuttle train between Ajmer and Jaipur.
2. A Passenger train between Delhi and Sharni.
3. A Fast Passenger train between Madurai and Coimbatore.
4. A Passenger train between Ratangarh and Degana.
5. An additional Main Line Electric Multiple Unit service between Asansol and Durgapur.