

restrictions within the meaning of section 2(o) (ii) of the MRTP Act, 1969. The reply to notice of enquiry is to be filed by MTNL, by 20.1.97 when the matter will be heard by the Commission.

(c) to (e). The service tax is recoverable from the subscribers of telephone connection as per Finance Act, 1994 and rules made thereunder.

Removal of Unauthorised Hutment Dwellers

1902. SHRI MADHUKAR SIROTDAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway Administration has agreed in principal to remove the unauthorised hutment dwellers residing by the side of local railway trains tracks in Mumbai suburban section of Central and Western Railways and provide the hutment dwellers alternate railway land; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Removal of unauthorised occupants on Railway land is a continuous process. Action against the encroachers of Railway land is taken under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. As regards resettlement of slum-dwellers, it is not the responsibility of railway to provide alternate Railway land.

(b) Does not arise.

Handling of Air Buses

1903. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any of the Airports in North Eastern States are capable of handling Airbuses;

(b) if so, names of those airports;

(c) whether such facilities are to be extended to other airports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Guwahati airport in Assam is suitable for Airbus-300 class of aircraft operations. Dibrugarh in Assam, Imphal in Manipur, Agartala in Tripura and Dimapur in Nagaland are suitable for Airbus-320 class of aircraft operations.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Lilabari (North Lakhimpur) is being developed to make it suitable for Airbus-320 aircraft operations by strengthening and extending the runway. The work is likely to be completed by July, 1998.

Stoppage of Bokaro Shatabdi Express at Raniganj

1904. SHRI MEHBOOB ZEHEDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide stoppage of Bokaro Shatabadi Express at Raniganj and commercial stoppage at Gomoh to earn more revenue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the announcement system/music channel in this train has been stopped;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No., Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Not found justified.

(d) and (e). Temporary announcement system was functioning for only three months, in an improvised manner for Guard's Van.

(f) There is no proposal to revive it.

Increase in Passengers between Howrah-New Delhi Route

1905. SHRI BALAJI CHANDRA'RAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that passengers have been increased between Howrah and New Delhi route many fold;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that persons buying tickets by Kalka Mail, Poorva Express and Rajdhani Express are kept under Waiting List and thereby denied accommodation in these trains;

(c) if so, the details of average daily number of persons on waiting list for Poorva Express, Kalka Mail for all classes during the last two years;

(d) whether it is also a fact that not a single superfast train has been introduced from Howrah to New Delhi for a long time;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the frequency of 2381/2382 is going to be increased to daily in lieu of thrice a week now; and

(g) if not, the alternative considered by the Government to provide accommodation to large number of persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). The passenger traffic has increased between New Delhi and Howrah and there is unsatisfied demand also.

The average number of passengers left on the waiting list by 2381/2382, 2303/2304 Poorva-Express and 2311/2312 Kalka Mail in different classes varies as under

<i>Down Direction towards Howrah</i>	
I AC	1
II AC	4 to 8
Sleeper Class	23 to 88
<i>Up Direction towards Delhi</i>	
I AC	5 to 10
II AC	20 to 40
Sleeper Class	300 to 400

(d) No. Sir 2421/2422 weekly Rajdhani was introduced between Delhi and Bhubaneshwar via Howrah w.e.f. 1.4.94.

(e) Does not arise

(f) & (g) No. Sir. However, 3039/3040 Howrah-Delhi Janta Express has been restored w.e.f. 1.10.96 providing additional accommodation between Howrah and Delhi.

Frequency of EMU Trains

1906. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plans to augment the frequency of EMU Trains being operated as the Ring Railways Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways are operating any feeder bus service to provide a link between Ring Railway stops and the nearest DTC stops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Telecommunication System in Nizamabad

1907. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telecommunication system is not satisfactory in Nizamabad town of Andhra Pradesh since

most of the telephones provided there do not function properly; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve telephone services and to attend to the telephone complaints promptly?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The telecommunication services are generally satisfactory.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above. However, following steps are being taken by the Government for further improvement of services:

- i. Replacement of old and worn out equipment.
- ii. Computerisation of fault repair service.
- iii. Replacement of fault prone cables by jelly filled cables.
- iv. Laying of cables in ducts.
- v. Induction of modern testing aids.
- vi. Providing reliable transmission media.

[Translation]

Orders by BSP to HEC, Ranchi

1908. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of work orders given to HEC, Ranchi during each of the last three years by Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) whether the work orders given were sufficient in number;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of the companies to whom the work orders were given during the above period which could have been handled by HEC;

(e) the amount spent on the work orders given to these companies; and

(f) the amount spent on each work orders separately given to HEC during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Policy for Changing Names of Railway Station

1909. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs is alone competent to approve change in the names of Railway Stations; and