

Reservation in ICAR

771. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recommendations of the Mandal Commission to provide reservation and age relaxation to the other Backward Classes in jobs are being implemented in the selection of scientists in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research,

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to implement the recommendations without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) As per Government of India instructions, 27% reservation is provided to OBCs in scientific posts where reservation exists for SC/ST. Relaxation in upper age limit for a period of 3 years in respect of the Scientific posts filled up on direct recruitment at entry level is also given to the OBCs.

(b) and (c). Does not arise

[Translation]

Gauge Conversion

772. PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for completing the broad gauge conversion work of Delhi-Ahmedabad-Jaipur-Ajmer Marwad Junction Railways Line

(b) the reasons for delay in achieving the target,

(c) the extent of the work completed on this project and the amount spent thereon

(d) the likely time to be taken for completion of the remaining work and the amount earmarked for it, and

(e) the alternative arrangements made for the facilities of passengers during the period of Gauge Conversion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The original target date for completion of the project was 31.3.96

(b) On request from Ministry of Petroleum, work on some of the sections was delayed till the Kendla-Bhatinda oil pipe line is commissioned

(c) Sections completed so far are as under :

1. Delhi-Ajmer (444 Kms)
2. Mehsana-Ahmedabad (52 kms)

The amount spent so far on this project is Rs 502 30 crs

(d) The remaining work i.e. from Ajmer-Mahesana (423 kms.) is expected to be completed by Feb '97. The

amount earmarked for 1996-97 will be available in the Budget Document which will be laid in the House later today.

(e) State Government will be requested to operate additional Bus Services.

[English]

Siliguri to Alipurduar

773. PROF JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to make an alternative broad gauge rail line from Siliguri to Alipurduar via Domohoni, Malbazar,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes Sir

(b) and (c) The Gauge Conversion of Bongaigaon-Siliguri (275 kms) section will be taken up in the coming years in lieu of doubling of the BG line between Jaipalguri and Bongaigaon

Foreign Refugees

774. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the extent of foreign refugees staying in India

(b) the number and name of countries from which they have come,

(c) whether they have been accorded political sasylum for Indian citizenship, and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to deport them to their countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The number of foreign refugees staying in India and their country of origins are as follows

Country of Origin	Number of refugees
Tibet	98,000
Sri Lanka	87,729
Bangladesh (Chakma and Hajongs)	66,234
Burma	52
Total	2,52,015

In addition to these, there are 18,932 Afghans, 255 Somalis and 808 refugees from Other Countries living in India under the Mandate of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

(c) and (d). Indian Citizenship is granted in accordance with the provisions of the India Citizenship Act, 1955. No special provision exists in the citizenship to persons holding refugee Status. As per the policy of the Government of India, the refugees are being repatriated to their respective Countries on Voluntary basis on the basis of bilateral consultations with their home countries.

[Translation]

Fencing of Barbed Wire Along Indo-Pak Border

775 SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the length in kilometres fenced with the proposed to be fenced with barbed wire along the Indo-Pak border.

(b) the name and address of the agency contractor appointed for fencing and

(c) the amount spent and proposed to be spent by the Government on it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) (a) The progress of fencing work along the Indo-Pak border is as under

	Completed	To be completed
Punjab	451 kms	
Rajasthan	600 Kms	435 Kms
Jammu		180 Kms
Gujarat	Terrain is not suitable for fencing	

(b) The work is being done through CPWD

(c) A total amount of Rs. 225.00 crore has been spent so far and an amount of Rs. 113.00 crore is proposed to be spent for the works in hand

[English]

Purchase of Land by IPCL

776 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Limited had purchased two plots of land on lease in public auction from the Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA) in 1990

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount paid for the same, and

(c) the purpose for which the land has since been utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) (a) to (c) The Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited

(IPCL) have intimated that they had acquired two plots of land in Varsova area of Bombay in a public auction from MHADA as per details below

Plot No	Area (Sq. Mtrs.)	Amount in Rs
1/RDP-2	1539.85	2,47,74,878/-
30/RDP-2	1408.53	2,16,44,035/-

These plots were acquired for constructing residential accommodation for the Bombay based employees of IPCL as also for transit accommodation and guest house. Lease deed for these plots is being executed and construction work will be initiated soon after the lease deeds are complete.

Suburban Railway Stations

777 SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have plans to improve the working of suburban Railways Stations, particularly the Churny-Road Railway Platform.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) (i) Platform No. 3 and 4 at Churny Road station have been extended for 12 coach train. (ii) Foot over Bridge on platform 3 and 4 is under construction. (iii) A Sky-walk to connect new foot over bridge with south end Mumbai Municipal Corporation foot over bridge has been planned. (iv) Approach path improvement to Churny Road Station from Marine Drive is being done.

(c) Does not arise

Introduction of Shatabdi and Palace on Wheels

778 SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Shatabdi Express and Palace on Wheels trains from Hyderabad, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) and (b) At present there is no proposal to introduce Shatabdi Express from Hyderabad. However, there is a proposal to run a 'Palace on Wheels' type tourist train touching Hyderabad on the following circuit: Bombay-Aurangabad (Ajanta Ellora)-Nanded-Secunderabad-Hyderabad-Pune-Bombay