

(d) and (e) The matter relating to conversion of "Mandarin Room" of Janpath Hotel from a Chinese cuisine restaurant to a South Indian Cuisine restaurant is under examination.

#### Khurda Puri Railway Line

1997. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted any proposal regarding railway line between Khurda and Puri;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) The State Govt. of Orissa had requested for doubling Khurda Road-Puri section of S.E.Railway. However doubling of single line section is normally taken up when their carrying capacity is saturated, freight intensive sections being given priority. The traffic on Khurda Road-Puri section has not yet reached the level to justify doubling. As and when the traffic warrants its doubling, the same would be considered.

#### Train Accidents on Alipurduar-Dimapur Line

1998. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA:  
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents took place on Alipurduar-Dimapur line of North Frontier Railway during the last three years;

(b) whether the Alipurduar-Dimapur line is prone to train accidents;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the loss suffered by the Railways due to these accidents;

(e) the loss of human lives as a result of these accidents;

(f) whether adequate compensation has been paid to the kith and kin of deceased/injured persons; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The number of consequential train accidents on Alipurduar-Dimapur section of North-East Frontier Railway since 1993-94 is as under :-

Year	No. of accidents
1993-94	22
1994-95	26
1995-96	09
1996-97	05
(up to January 1997)	

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The cost of damage to railway property during the above years was Rs.8.17 lakhs, Rs.71.71 lakhs, Rs.3.54 lakhs and Rs.7.15 lakhs respectively.

(e) One person lost his life in accidents during 1994-95. In addition, 59 persons lost their lives in two incidents of bomb blasts on 25.2.1995 and 30.12.1996.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Immediately after the accidents ex-gratia amounting to Rs.5,88,250/- was paid to the dependents of dead and injured passengers to take care of their immediate needs. Based on the verdict of the Railway Claims Tribunal, compensation amounting to Rs.57,76,000/- was also paid to them during 1993-94 to 1996-97 (up to January 1997).

#### Renewal of Track

1999. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY:  
SHRI ANIL BASU:  
SHRI HARADHAN ROY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Eastern, South Eastern and North East Frontier Railways for sanctioning of adequate funds to clear the backlog of track renewals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present position of track renewals, Zone-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to clear the arrears of above Zones?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The present position of Track Renewals Zone-wise is:

Railway	Target 1996-97 Kms. (CTR Units)
Eastern	320
N. East Frontier	80
S. Eastern	560

(d) Track renewals are being sanctioned depending on the funds available, capacity of the railway to execute the works without affecting the train running and the importance of the route. Works are being executed accordingly.

#### Media Policy

2000. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any new media policy as reported in the 'Times of India' dated September 12, 1996; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) The Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had submitted 'A Working Paper on National Media Policy' to the Chairman of the Consultative Committee i.e. Minister of Information and Broadcasting on 29.3.1996 for consideration in accordance with the terms and conditions for the functioning of the Sub-Committee. The Working Paper is presently under consideration with the newly constituted Consultative Committee of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

#### Stoppage of Rampurhat Express at Bandel

2001. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether people of Hooghly and North 24 Parganas of West Bengal are demanding for stoppage of 3017/3018 Rampurhat Express at Bandel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the people of this area would be benefited to get direct train services to go to Bolpur, Tarapith and Rampurhat; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Some representations have been received in this regard. In view of availability of alternative services, there is no proposal at present to provide stoppage to 3017/3018 Howrah-Rampurhat Express at Bandel.

#### Participation of Workers in Management Bill, 1990

2002. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intend to review the Bill on Participation of Workers in Management Bill, 1990 with a view to incorporate amendments necessitated as a result of changing socio-economic scenario; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The Participation of Workers in Management Bill, 1990 was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare for examination and report. Following a preliminary hearing, the Parliamentary Standing Committee had suggested that the Government may review the Bill keeping in view the need for incorporating necessary amendments in the context of the changing socio-economic scenario of the country. The matter has been considered by the Indian Labour Conference (ILC) held on 24th-25th October, 1996 and it was decided that the Government may take appropriate action on the basis of the suggestions and notices received from all concerned.

The issue of amendments to the Participation of Workers in Management Bill, 1990 will be reviewed in the light of the deliberations of the Tripartite Committee on Employees Participation which is likely to be held shortly.

#### Basic Improvement in the Management of Hotels and Restaurants

2003. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received comprehensive representation from the All India ITDC Workers Federation for suggesting some basic improvement in the management of Hotels and Restaurants within ITDC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the ITDC management has been regularly closing down the running restaurants to enable private contractors to step into ITDC business without reasons;

(d) if so, whether ITDC management is proving itself incompetent to cater the needs of its clients and guests for serving food and beverages; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) No such comprehensive representation has been received in the Hotels Division of ITDC.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. It is not true that ITDC management has been closing down the departmentally run restaurants for leasing out to private parties. However, ITDC leases