[English]

Financial Assistance given by CAPART

*339. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSAMNI :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of projects taken up with the assistance of Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) in Orissa and Assam during the last three years;
- (b) the details of achievements made therefrom; and
- (c) the details of mechanism adopted to supervise these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The details of the projects taken up with the assistance of Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) in Orissa and Assam during the last three years are as follows:

Orissa			(Rs. in lakhs)
	No. of	Amount	Amount
	Projects	Sanctioned	released
1995-96	55	359.93	192.26
1996-97	123	275.75	162.16
1997-98	77	137.80	79.04
Total	255	773.48	433.46
Assam			(Rs. in lakhs)
	No. of	Amount	Amount
	Projects	Sanctioned	released
1995-96	30	142.17	113.34
1996-97	32	286.70	39.26
1997-98	34	88.05	68.13
Total	96	516.92	220.73

- (b) Out of 96 projects sanctioned in Assam about 45 projects stand completed and remaining are ongoing. Similarly in respect of Orissa 8 projects stand completed and 247 remaining are ongoing.
- (c) Projects submitted by the voluntary organisations are monitored at various stages such as prior to funding (pre-funding appraisal), during execution (mid term appraisal), and after completion of the projects (post evaluation). The appraisal/evaluation of the projects is done by empanelled project evaluators namely, institutions experts or by CAPART's own officers.

inter-Linking Air Services on Vayudoot System

- *340. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a number of airstrips including at Solapur were used a Vayudoot and are now lying out of use since the closure of Vayudoot;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the total cost locked in such air strips and other infrastructure;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to revive interlinking air services on the pattern of Vayudoot through public or private airways; and
 - (d) if so, decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Operations to most of these stations on Vayudoot network were discontinued due to shortage of capacity and losses incurred in the operation of services there. Since many of these airports/airfields are fit for use only by small aircraft of 50 seater or less capacity, shortage of these aircraft with Indian Airlines and other scheduled operators does not permit operation to these stations. The total amount of money locked up in respect of these idle airports is approximately Rs. 245 lakhs. All the assets lying in these airfields have been fully depreciated except building, on which the annual depreciation works to approximately Rs. 3.10 lakh.

(c) and (d) No, Sir, Airline operators are, however, free to operate to new stations based on their commercial judgement subject to viability and compliance with the route dispersal guidelines.

Transportation Facility to People of Indo-Myanmar Border

- *341. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Defence Forces have imposed any restrictions on construction of roads within 25 kms of Indo-Myanmar Border in Manipur;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the alternate measures being taken by the Government to provide transportation facilities to the inhabitants of the area?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) As per the existing instructions construction of roads within a 25 km belt of the International Border with Myanmar requires prior clearance of the Ministry of Defence for security reasons. These restrictions have been laid down by the Ministry of Defence to ensure that no construction/improvement of roads take place in the border

areas without assessing their implications from the point of view of security of the country.

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However, the Govt. of Manipur can construct roads within the aforementioned belt after obtaining prior clearance on case by case basis from the Ministry of Defence.

The villages are connected by fair weather jeepable road constructed under Rural development schemes. The Govt. of Manipur approaches the Central Govt. from time to time for the clearance of roads which are important for development of the areas.

Verification of Antecedents of G.R.P. and R.P.F.

3226. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the bonafides and character antecedents of all G.R.P. and R.P.F. staff have been verified;
- (b) if so, whether any unsocial elements have been detected in these forces; and
- (c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against the unsocial elements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. The bonafides and character antecedents of all the candidates who qualify for recruitment in GRP/RPF are invariably verified from the police and District authorities before their enlistment.

- (b) No, Sir. Only after getting satisfactory report from District authorities and police, the selected candidates are allowed to undergo initial training and given appointment;
- (c) Does not arise. However, in case any staff is subsequently found to be involved in anti-social activities, action is taken against him through departmental process.

[Translation]

Mines in Rajasthan

3227. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Rampura Anguja Mines in Bhilwada district of Rajasthan are in operation
- (b) if so, the details of each of the metals, excavated from there and its annual production;

- (c) whether the life of the residents living in the Rampura Anguja mines area and its neighbouring villages has become difficult due to mine blast; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government so far to overcome their difficulties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) During 1997-98, 1033865 MT of Lead-Zinc Ore containing 1.85% Lead and 12.11% Zinc was produced from Rampura-Agucha mine.
- (c) and (d) National Institute of Rock Mechanics, Kolar, has recommended Peak Particle Velocity of 5 mm/second as the safe limit of vibrations for the type of structures in the villages around the Rampura-Agucha Mine. The blasting operations being carried out at the Mine have been reported to be within the limit.

[English]

Drunken Guard Delays Kalka Mail

3228. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Drunk guard delays Kalka Mail' appearing in "The Hindustan Times" dated the April, 9, 1998;
 - (b) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to prevent such occurrence in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) On 7.4.1998, train guard of 2311 UP Kalka Mail was found under the influence of liquor at Delhi Main Station before starting the train and train suffered 55 minutes extra detention on this account. Due to delay of this train, he has been placed under suspension and is being taken up under Discipline and Appeal Rules.
- (c) Breath analyser test is being done for drivers and guards before they work a train.

Change of Medium in Bokaro Schools

3229. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : SHRI MOINUL HASSAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :