

Operational Cost of Railway

2355. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of branch lines functioning at present;

(b) the total annual income earned by the railway therefrom;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the operational cost of railways;

(d) if so, the percentage of total earnings of railways being spent under the above said head;

(e) whether the Government have taken any action to reduce the expenditure under this head during last few years; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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) It is presumed that reference is to Uneconomic Branch Lines. During 1996-97, there were 120 such lines.

(b) The total earnings of the above lines during 1996-97 were Rs. 203.78 Crores.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The working expenses of these uneconomic branch lines (i.e. Rs. 447.45 crore) were 219.57% of their earnings.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The following measures are being taken to minimise/reduce the expenditure on uneconomic branch lines:-

- (i) Introduction of 'One Engine only' system;
- (ii) Discontinuing night running of trains, if any;
- (iii) Suspension of poorly patronised trains;
- (iv) Rescheduling of time table of passengers trains;
- (v) Replacement of Passenger/Goods trains by mixed trains;

(vi) Converting flag stations into Contractor operated halt stations;

(vii) Closure of stations for goods/parcel traffic wherever warranted;

(viii) Intensified ticket checking;

(ix) Economy in staff;

(x) Reduction in stock wherever feasible.

[English]

Encroachment in Dwarka and Bindapur Areas

2356. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the encroachment on D.D.A. land in Dwarka and Bindapur areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Land measuring about 48 acre in the area is under encroachment.

(c) DDA has reported that a number of programmes were fixed to remove the encroachments. However, these could not be executed due to large number of residential houses and also because of proximity to the village abadi. At present the subject matter of regularisation of unauthorised colonies is under consideration of Govt. However, the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in CWP No. 4771/93 has restrained the respondents, including Union of India, from regularising any unauthorised colony in Delhi. The matter is still subjudice.

Deletion of Limestone and Bauxite from List of Minerals

2357. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

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

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has represented for the deletion of Limestone and Bauxite

from the list of Scheduled minerals as shown in Schedule I of the Mineral and Metals Regulation and Development Act, 1957 and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal for deletion of Limestone and Bauxite from Schedule I of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, has been considered by the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Mines) with the Secretaries of some of the State Governments including the Government of Gujarat, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Mineral Industries, Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines etc. As members. The terms of reference of the Committee, inter-alia, included review of the existing laws and procedures governing regulation and development of minerals and to recommend steps to make them compatible with the policy changes and to suggest steps to reduce delays in grant/ renewal of Prospecting Licences/Mining Leases. The Committee was also to consider and suggest further delegation of powers to the State Governments regarding grant/renewal of prospecting Licences/mining Leases and measures to be taken to prevent illegal mining. The Committee has since submitted its report on which necessary action has already been initiated.

Rohini Scheme - 1982

2358. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH:
SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants registered under the DDA's Rohini Scheme of 1982 for allotment of plots in different category, category-wise;

(b) the number of persons allotted plots so far;

(c) whether any target for allotment of plots to the remaining registrants has been fixed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount collected under this scheme as earnest money and the manner in which the money has been utilised;

(f) whether the interest of the earnest money is likely to be given to the registrants; and

(g) if so, the rate of interest to be given and the rate of interest being earned by the DDA on the earnest money deposited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) DDA has reported that 82,384 person got themselves registered under the Rohini Residential Scheme of 1981. The categorywise break-up is as under:—

| | |
|-------|-------|
| MIG | 25889 |
| LIG | 38195 |
| Janta | 18390 |

(b) 44,051 registrants have been allotted plots in various categories.

(c) and (d) No fixed time schedule can be given for allotment of plot to the remaining registrants as the process depends upon various factors like acquisition of land and its transfer to DDA, development of infrastructure, provision of services by connected agencies like MCD, Delhi Vidyut Board etc.

(e) Rs. 21.26 crores was collected under this scheme and this even amount has been utilised on the implementation of the scheme.

(f) The interest on earnest money is paid at the time of allotment and adjusted against the demand of the premium in the Demand letter. In case where the refund of earnest money is sought by the registrants, interest is paid at the time of refund.

(g) Interest @7% per annum is payable on the earnest money. As these deposits were not invested anywhere, the question of earning interest on the deposits does not arise.

Construction of Bagi Bill Bridge

2359. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the foundation stone was laid for the proposed Bagi-Bill (Road cum Railways) over river Brahmaputra between Dibrugarh and Dhemajji;

(b) the total estimated amount for the construction of the said bridge; and

(c) the time by which the construction of the above bridge is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER ON STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) It was laid on 22.1.97.

(b) and (c) The Final Location Survey is in progress. Cost will be known once this survey is completed. The construction will be started thereafter, after the land has been acquired.