

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Work on Neemuch-Ratlam section is already in progress and is targetted to be completed within the 9th plan. Gauge conversion of the rest of the section i.e. Ratlam-Mhow is not yet sanctioned.

[English]

**Infiltration by Foreign Poachers
in A&N Islands**

1331. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of regular infiltration of Foreign Poachers in A&N Islands;

(b) if so, the number of Poachers held; Vessels apprehended; arms and ammunitions detected and the follow-up action taken during each of the last three years; and

(c) the action contemplated for the safety and security of A&N Islands?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

1. The details regarding the vessels and crew apprehended year-wise are indicated below:-

Year	Number of Vessels	Number of Crew
1995	6	48
1996	15	140
1997	39	150
1998(Till May 1998)	12	154

2. All the apprehended vessels and crew were handed over to Andaman & Nicobar Administration for taking appropriate action under Maritime Zones of India Act and rules thereunder.

3. Coast Guards ships and aircrafts in coordination with Navy maintain regular surveillance and patrolling in Andaman & Nicobar Islands to check illegal activities and ensure safety and security of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. In addition to above Army and Air Force units are also used to augment the surveillance as and when required.

[Translation]

BALCO

1332. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Ancillary units registered at present for various works of BALCO Aluminium Plant;

(b) the names of the works for which these have been registered; and

(c) the details of new Ancillary units to be registered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) There are 13 ancillary units registered at present with Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd. (BALCO) for various works.

(b) These units are registered mainly for Ferrous and Non-Ferrous castings, Burnt lime, Machining Items, Fabrication, Covering Flux Degasser, etc.

(c) At present, BALCO have no proposal to register new ancillary units.

Linking of Backward Area with Main Rail Line

1333. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposed schemes to link backward area of Maharashtra with main railway lines;

(b) the status of Gondia-Nagbhid-Mool Girchiroli-Chanderpur rail line;

(c) whether the survey of Varora-Umrer-Chimur rail line has been completed;

(d) the time by which the Construction work of the above line is likely to be commenced and completed;

(e) whether there is any proposal to convert Nagpur-Nagbhir narrow gauge line into broad gauge line; and

(f) if so, the time by which the above work is likely to be completed?

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) A number of new rail line projects have been taken up to link the backward areas of Maharashtra. These are as under:-