

- iii) Refund of the duty paid on any imported or excisable material used in the manufacture of export goods;
- iv) Exemption of export earnings from income-tax under section 80 HHC; and
- v) Enhancement of duty credit rates under the Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme of most of the iron and steel items to encourage export of iron and steel.

Expenditure on Fuel by A.I.

1378. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India had spent more than original estimates on fuel during the current financial year;
- (b) if so, the actual amount spent on fuel vis-a-vis the estimated amount;
- (c) the reasons for making this additional expenditure; and
- (d) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Air India's fuel expenditure during 1997-98 was Rs. 649 crores as against the budget estimate of Rs.794.38 crores.

- (c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Incentives to WLDP

1379. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are considering of giving some incentives including tax relief to motivate the corporate sector for taking up Wastelands Development Programme ;
- (b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be finalised;
- (c) whether some Wastelands Projects of Rajasthan State are pending with the Union Government for clearance;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the same are likely to be cleared;
- (e) whether the Government are considering revising the cost per hectare of Wastelands Development Programme

in view of the geographic condition and adverse climatic condition of the State;

- (f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be;
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) A Central Sector Investment Promotional Scheme (IPS) was launched during 1994-95 to channelise/mobilise financial resources from financial institutions, banks, corporate bodies etc. for development of Wastelands in non-forest areas belonging to Central and State Governments, Panchayats, Village Communities, private farmers etc; however on the basis of recommendations of Standing Committee of Parliament for Urban and Rural Development, the scheme is being restructured and likely to be finalised shortly.

(c) and (d) Under the Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Wastelands Developments Project (IWDP), Out of three pending proposals received from the State Government of Rajasthan for two projects, additional information from Rajasthan is awaited and that the 3rd project is under processing. The sanction of these projects will depend upon the response of Rajasthan State and other aspects such as viability and conformity with the guidelines and availability of budgetary resources and hence time frame could not be indicated.

(e) to (g) As per the common guidelines on Watershed Development of Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment, the provision of cost per hectare for wastelands development programme is Rs.4000/-; however the State Watershed Programme Implementation and Review Committee is empowered to enhance the cost norms for the geographic locations which are subject to adverse climatic conditions.

Urban Local Bodies.

1380. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 1137 on 30.7.97 and state:

- (a) the names of the Urban Local Bodies in Scheduled Areas of Orissa;
- (b) whether there was some omission of the names of the Notified Area Committees and Municipalities located in Scheduled Areas of the State;
- (c) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (d) the priorities and programmes undertaken by the Union Government and State Government to develop these

Urban Local Bodies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) A complete list of Notified Area Committees and Municipalities located in Scheduled Areas of Orissa is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) As per latest information received from Govt. of Orissa, the names of the following Municipalities/Notified Area Committees (NAC) have been included in addition to the information already furnished alongwith the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1137 for 30.7.97:-

1. Joda (Municipality)
2. Phulbani (NAC)
3. Balimela (NAC)
4. Malkangiri (NAC)
5. Umerkote (NAC)
6. Nabarangapur (Municipality)
7. Gudari (NAC)
8. Ganupur (NAC)
9. Rayagada (NAC)

The name of Nilgiri (NAC) has now been deleted by the State Govt. from the list of Urban Local Bodies in Scheduled Areas. Earlier the names of 18 Municipalities and Notified Area Committees in Scheduled Areas of Orissa were mentioned in our reply to Question No. 1137 dated 30.7.97 as per the information then supplied by Orissa Govt.

(b) Since Municipal Administration is a State subject, it is for the concerned State Government to take necessary action in this regard. As far as Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment is concerned, the details of the Centrally sponsored Schemes/Programmes being implemented by it in respect of Urban Local Bodies in Scheduled Areas of Orissa is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of Distt.	Municipality	Notified Area Committee
1	2	3	4
1.	Mayurbhanja	Baripada	Rairangapur, Udala, Karanjia

1	2	3	4
2.	Keonjhar	Keonjhar, Barbil, Joda	
3.	Sundergarh	Sundergarh, Rajagangpur, Biramitrapur, Rourkela	
4.	Phulbani		Phulbani, G. Udayagiri
5.	Koraput	Jepore	Koraput, Kotpad, Sunabeda
6.	Malkangiri	-	Balimela, Malkangiri
7.	Nabarangapur	Nabarangapur	Umerkote
8.	Rayagada	Rayadaga	Gudari, Gunupur
9.	Ganjam	-	Sorda
10.	Deogarh	-	Kuchinda

Statement-II

1. Name of the Scheme-**INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL & MEDIUM TOWNS:**

This scheme has been in operation since 1979-80 in all States including Orissa. The following Towns in Scheduled Areas of Orissa have been covered under the scheme from 1979-80 till date. The details of Central Assistance released under the scheme is indicated against the name of each town.

S. No.	Name of Town	Central Assistance released (Rupees in lakhs)
1.	Raurkela	40.00
2.	Jeypur	40.00
3.	Keonjhar	54.00
4.	Baripada	46.00
5.	Koraput	40.00
6.	Phulbani	29.00
7.	Rayagada	15.00
8.	Sundergarh	20.00
9.	Umerkote	12.00
10.	Nabarangapur	15.00

2. Name of the Scheme -ACCFELERATED URBANWATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME:

Under this programme two water supply scheme in respect of Balimela (NAC) at a cost of Rs. 83.65 lakhs and Malkangiri (NAC) involving a total project cost of Rs. 219.00 lakhs have been approved by this Ministry.

3. Name of the Scheme - INTEGRATED LOW COST SANITATION SCHEME:

Scheme for the following towns in Scheduled Areas of Orissa have been sanctioned as on 31.12.97. The project cost for each of the town is indicated against their names.

S.No.	Name of the town	Project cost (Rupees in lakhs)
1.	Sunabeda	23.65
2.	Gunupur	9.70
3.	Raurkela	46.90
4.	Udala	4.55
5.	Rairangapur	2.22
6.	Umerkote	4.94
7.	Sundergarh	26.99
8.	Balimela	20.10
9.	Rajagangpur	36.68
10.	Joda	24.56
11.	Barbil	15.52
12.	Kotpad	15.00
13.	Rayagada	21.50
14.	Malkangiri	20.10

Gauge Conversion

1381. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to convert all narrow/metre gauge lines into broad gauge in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be converted?.

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) No, Sir. Gauge conversion of only lines selected on the basis of operational/strategic requirements and their having developmental potential is being taken up.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Monitoring of Fund under EAS

1382. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI:

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

(a) whether effective steps for monitoring the funds allocated to States under the Employment Assurance Scheme are being taken;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds released under Employment Assurance Scheme to States and utilised during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the reasons for the amount remained unutilised under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) is being monitored at Centre with the help of Monthly Progress Reports and Half-Yearly Progress Reports from the States. The scheme is also reviewed at the Conference of State Secretaries held at New Delhi. At the State level, the scheme is monitored by the State Governments with the help of State Level Coordination Committee for the Rural Development Programmes and at the district level by the District EAS Committee and Block EAS Committee in every district and block.

(c) The information may please be seen in the enclosed Statement-I to III

(d) Employment Assurance Scheme is a demand driven scheme and a District can apply for release of next instalment after utilisation of 50% funds for a block. Thus, a district can have at any point of time 50% of the allocated funds. A district is not required to spend funds released in a year during that year itself since it is a continuing scheme.