

Missing of Containers

1260. SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether around 1453 import containers are missing from CONCOR ICD, Tughlakabad, during the period 1993 to 1998;

(b) if so, the approximate duty evaded on this account during each of the last five years;

(c) whether the CONCOR ICD took loan from IFCI at the interest rate of 24% p.a. for purchasing the terminal operating equipments where as the same loan was transferred to private contractors at the interest rates of 16% to 18% p.a. for the purchase of the same equipments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

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) and (b) There has not been any case of missing of container from CONCOR ICD/Tughlakabad during the period 1993 to 1998.

(c) and (d) CONCOR had availed of one loan from IFCI in the year 1991 at 23% (not 24%) interest towards purchase of two rubber tyred gantry cranes which are currently installed in the terminal at Tughlakabad. These were imported from Singapore for which the company was required to pay in foreign exchange. It was on the direction of the Government of India in relation to the import licence for this equipment that CONCOR approached IFCI for sanction of foreign currency loan. CONCOR did not avail of the IFCI loan due to shortage of funds but only as the means of obtaining foreign exchange, on the direction of the Government, to pay for the equipment.

There is no question of CONCOR subsequently loaning these funds to anyone for financing procurement of similar equipment since both the gantry cranes have been procured and are currently deployed in Tughlakabad. Further, no advance has been sanctioned by CONCOR for purchase of Rubber Tyred Gantry Crane.

**Indian Institute of Mass Communication
in Karnataka**

1261. SHRI C.P.M. GIRYAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up any branch of Indian Institute of Mass Communication in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Railway Projects in Gujarat

1262. SHRI JAYASINHJI CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals for Rail projects received from Gujarat during each of the last three years;

(b) the action taken on each of the proposal;

(c) the details of the surveys conducted during the said period;

(d) the details of the work undertaken for the improvement and expansion of Rail Network in Gujarat during the said period; and

(e) the reasons for the slow progress in the completion of these projects?

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) and (b) Proposals for rail projects are neither formulated nor proposed State-wise. However, suggestions are received from various sources including the State Government, pertaining to projects located in Gujarat.

In the recent past following suggestions have been received from the Government of Gujarat. Steps taken against each of these projects are also indicated.