

Year	Funds released for wage employment under NRY (Rs. in lakhs)	Mandays of work generated (in Lakhs)
1995-96	67.70	1.36
1996-97	67.70	0.85
1997-98	28.54	0.57

Under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana Central funds amounting to Rs. 171.51 lakhs was released to Assam under urban wage Employment Programme (UWEP) component, whereas under the Urban Self employment Programme (USEP) central funds amounting to Rs. 251.65 lakhs were released during 1997-98.

Laying of New Railway Lines in Andhra Pradesh

1376. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

	NAME OF PROJECT	REGION	PRESENT PROGRESS
i.	Nandyal-Yerraguntla	Rayalaseema	This is an ongoing work for which Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition papers and plans are under preparation. The actual work would start as soon as land is made available by the State Government.
ii.	Peddapalli-Karimnagar Nizamabad	Telangana	The work has been under-taken in phases. In the first phase between Peddapalli and Karimnagar earthwork and work on bridges is in good progress. This phase is presently targetted for completion within the 9th Plan. Work on the second phase of the line from Karimnagar to Nizamabad will be taken up after completing the first phase.
iii.	Macherla-Nalgonda- Raichur	Telangana	The work has been included in the Supplementary Demands for Grants, 1997-98 and will be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.

[Translation]

Export of Steel

1377. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a new policy to boost the export of steel; and

(b) if so, since when and the details of the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Government has recently set up a Steel Exporters Forum under the Chairmanship of Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel whose main objectives inter-alia include:

i) Support, protect, maintain, increase and promote

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the rail connections in the entire Telengana and Rayalseema regions in Andhra Pradesh is extremely poor and seriously affecting the development of the region;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any Plan to lay new rail lines in Andhra Pradesh and particularly in the above regions; and

(c) 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) to (c) The Government have taken up the development of rail infrastructure in these areas through the construction of following new lines:

export of iron and steel by such methods as may be necessary or expedient.

ii) Identify potential export markets through intensive market and economic studies and develop products to meet specific demands in the international market.

The other measures taken by the Government from time to time to facilitate exports include:

i) Full convertibility of export earnings at market rate of exchange;

ii) Facility available to Exporters to import their requirement of raw material duty free under the advance Licensing Scheme;