

Scheme in rural areas for rural development are being misused in many States;

(c) if so, whether the Government have made any inquiry into the allegations published in the newsitem; and

(d) if so, the name of the investigating agency and the details of the facts after conducting inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the news item captioned "Corrupt Officers Auction Public Funds" published in "The Pioneer" dated February 10, 1998. This relates to Uttar Pradesh.

Government of Uttar Pradesh was accordingly requested to get the matter inquired into, Government of Uttar Pradesh have since inquired into the matter. They have informed that while they have found many shortcomings in the working of the Employment Assurance Scheme in the districts, no overt instance of corruption was found. They have also informed that a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Agricultural Production Commissioner has examined the question of removing corruption and bringing about complete transparency. They have further informed that the suggestions of this Committee are being enveloped into implementable work strategies, to stop malpractice in rural development schemes.

A few more instances of alleged irregularities/slippage in the implementation of EAS in few other States have also come to notice of this Ministry.

[English]

#### Pensionary Benefits to Casual Labourers

2054. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government consider to include the entire casual service as pensionable service; and

(b) 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) and (b) As per the instructions in force on the Railways, after the casual labour are regularised, 50% of the service rendered as casual labour from the date of attaining temporary status till the date of regular absorption, is counted as qualifying service for the purpose of pensionary benefits. These instructions are in line

with those laid down by the Ministry of Finance, and no unilateral action can be taken by the Ministry of Railways to make any change in this regard.

[Translation]

#### Revenue Earned by Railway

2055. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of States from which the Railways get maximum and minimum revenue, separately; and

(b) the name of States where there is maximum and minimum length of rail line, separately?

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) Statewise information in regard to Revenue is not maintained. However, Zone-wise information in this regard is as under :

Based on the Information of Traffic Earnings for the Year 1997-98, Railways got maximum Revenue from South Eastern Railways (Rs. 5544.73 crore) and minimum Revenue from Northeast Frontier Railways (Rs. 483.18 crore).

(b) As per the latest figures available (as on 31.3.1997), Uttar Pradesh is the State having maximum length of railway line (route kilometres) (8911.13 km) and Arunachal Pradesh is having the minimum route kilometres (1.26 km).

[English]

#### Tatkal Reservation from Jamnagar Station

2056. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passengers travelling from Jamnagar have Tatkal Reservation facility through computer for Saurashtra Mail at Jamnagar Railway Station;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided?

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) Yes, Sir.