

A sum of Rs. 133.00 lakhs, Rs.44.35 lakhs was released as Central share during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 respectively. No fund was released to the State Govt. during the year 1997-98.

(c) The UBSP emphasised provision of social services through convergence. As on 31.3.96, 9.81 lakh beneficiaries were reported to be covered under the Programme in Maharashtra.

Statement

1. BOMBAY
2. AMARAVATI
3. KALYAN
4. AURANGABAD
5. SHOLAPUR
6. KOLAPUR
7. NAGPUR
8. BULDHANA
9. MALKAPUR
10. ACHALPUR
11. WARDHA
12. YAVATMAL
13. JALGAON
14. PANVEL
15. ULHASNAGAR
16. MIRA BHAYANDAR
17. SINNAR
18. BHAGUR
19. GANGAKHOD
20. BID
21. CHANDRAPUR
22. AKOLA
23. MALEGAON
24. MANMAD
25. BHANDARA
26. BHONDIYA
27. BHUSAWAL
28. CHALISGAON
29. JALNA
30. LATTUR

31. CHOPDA
32. NASIK
33. OSMANABAD
34. DHULE
35. PARBHANI

Formation of National Nuclear Command Structure

5322. SHRI AJIT JOGI :
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to form a National Nuclear Command Structure is under the active consideration of the Government after the recent Atomic blasts;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken; and

(c) the details of the system followed in other nuclear countries in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) Details are under examination.

Rail Travellers Service Agents

5323. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail travellers service agents appointed so far in the country, zone-wise;

(b) the number of applications pending with the Government in this regard, zone-wise; and

(c) the time by when these applications are likely to be cleared?

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) The number of Rail Travellers Service Agents (RTSAs) functioning and the number of applications pending on Railways, Zone-wise are as under :

| Railway | No. of RTSAs | No. of applications pending |
|----------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Central | 102 | — |
| Eastern | 20 | — |
| Northern | 197 | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------------|-----|----|
| North Eastern | 8 | 4 |
| Northeast Frontier | 28 | - |
| Southern | 80 | 17 |
| South Central | 49 | 10 |
| South Eastern | 22 | - |
| Western | 138 | - |

Action is on hand to appoint more RTSAs on Eastern and Western Railways.

(c) No specific time frame has been set for clearing these applications.

Enquiry against Officers of Air India

5324. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether any departmental vigilance enquiry has been initiated against the GM (contracts) and the Project Manager, Air India for awarding a contract for Laying Polyurethane Flooring at Air India Engineering Complex Santacruz, Bombay;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the inquiry is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

National Urban Transport Development Fund

5325. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Urban Transport Development fund.

(b) if so, the main objectives thereof; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent during the Ninth Five Year Plan under the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) The Sub-group on Urban Transport set up by M/o Urban Affairs and Employment has recommended that a National Urban Transport Development Fund be set up. The main objectives of creating such a fund are:

(i) Financial support for mass urban transportation projects in million plus cities and traffic

improvement measures in all cities through equity, soft loans and grants;

(ii) Financing of feasibility reports and detailed project reports to the extent of 50% of costs;

(iii) Financial support for training and visit programmes in the field of urban transport within India and abroad;

(iv) Financial support for workshops, seminars etc. in the field for urban transport.

(c) The sub-group has recommended that to begin with a seed money of Rs. 500 crore should be provided by the Central Government through budgetary allocations during Ninth Five Year Plan. In addition, an equal amount can be raised through dedicated taxes/cesses on selected Central levies in million plus cities. A final decision in this regard is yet to be taken and therefore, the question of expenditure does not arise.

Rural Connectivity Programme

5326. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds sanctioned under Rural Connectivity Programme to the different States/Union Territories during the year 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) the mechanism recommended for the utilisation and execution of projects sanctioned under the scheme;

(c) whether in the State of Orissa the projects are being execute on job work basis without going into the process of inviting the tenders: and

(d) If so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Professional Allowance for Non-Technical Staff in Defence

5327. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations made by the high power committee headed by the Defence Secretary for the professional qualification allowance for the non-technical officers in the Ministry have been accepted by the Government.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the financial implication involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The High Power Committee