

(b) and (c) The amount of contract with M/s Birla Technical Services increased due to additions, change in scope of work etc.

(d) and (e) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his report containing review on the Modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant has made certain observations about the capacity and competence of M/s Birla Technical Services.

[English]

**Doubling of Railway Line from Ernakulam-Kottayam to Kayamkulam**

2044. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for doubling of railway line from Ernakulam-Kottayam to Kayamkulam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far?

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) Survey has been taken up. Further consideration will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

**Funds to DRDAs**

2045. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the concept of release of funds of DRDAs directly from his Ministry has been changed;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the better financial managements of DRDAs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Under every Rural Development scheme run by the Ministry, there are specific guidelines and accounting mechanism to ensure proper utilisation of funds and overall financial management.

**Losses Incurred by Indian Airlines and Air India**

2046. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) total loss incurred by Indian Airlines/Air India during the last six months : and

(b) the steps taken to reduce the losses?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) As per the provisional results of April-September, 1998 Air India and Indian Airlines have incurred losses of Rs. 129.08 crores and Rs. 34.90 crores respectively.

(b) Steps taken by the two airlines to control expenditure and increase productivity are as follows :

**Air India**

(i) Marketing efforts have been stepped up to generate additional revenue. (ii) Network rationalisation and consolidation with emphasis placed on route profitability. (iii) Reduction in expenditure on outside repairs of aircraft by undertaking more in-house repairs. (iv) Several posts of India based officers abroad have been abolished.

**Indian Airlines**

(i) Closure of off-line stations and reduction in the number of booking offices. (ii) Ban on recruitment, unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons. (iii) Drastic cut in the expenditure on office buildings. (iv) Freeze on capital expenditure unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons. (v) Reduction in frequencies of loss making routes.

**Improvement of Railway Services in Madurai**

2047. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madurai in Tamil Nadu is an important location of the Railway network in Southern India;

(b) if so, whether there is great demand for improvement of Railway Services and expansion in and around Madurai; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government there-on?

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) Yes, Sir.

(c) For improvement of railway network in and around Madurai, Gauge Conversion of Madurai-Rameshwaram metre gauge line has been taken up. Augmentation of necessary terminal facilities at Madurai

have also been planned, to cope with the anticipated increase in broad gauge traffic.

**Purchase of Stationery and other Items**

2048. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the absence of computerisation of requirement and purchase of stationery and other items in his Ministry, in the Service Headquarters, Inter-Service Organisations, defence establishments in Delhi Cantonment and nearby towns, lot of irregularities are taking place in the purchase thereof ignoring the quality of the products and the lowest rates;

(b) if so, the efforts being made to ensure that they purchase the best quality items at the most fair and reasonable rates; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to streamline the purchase procedure and to computerise the requirements and purchases interlinking them with computer networking with higher authorities?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The existing procedures take into consideration all relevant factors to ensure the procurement of high quality products at fair and reasonable rates through Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar. Only items not available with these stores are purchased locally at the lowest rates by following the prescribed process of calling for the competitive quotations, after obtaining the administrative and financial approval of competent authorities.

**Master Plan for Delhi**

2049. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will The Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have modified the Delhi Master Plan 2001; and

(b) if so, the details of the new provisions made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) The Delhi Master Plan 2001 has been modified. Vis-a-vis the norms for residential construction. The details of the new provision made in the Master Plan 2001 vide notification No. K-12016/5/79-DDIA/VA/IB dated 23.7.98 is given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Extracts from Gazette of India Extra Ordinary Part II Sec Sub-Sectioned - (ii) dated 23.7.98*

**MODIFICATIONS :**

1. On page 159 (Right Hand Side) of Gazette of the India dated 1.8.90 and in supersession of the Notification dated 15.05.95, the table and footnotes under Residential Plot-plotted housing (001) are amended as follows :

Sl.No.	Area of Plot (Sq. Mt.)	Maximum Ground Coverage %	FAR	No. of DUs	Maximum Height (in Mtr.)
1.	Below 32	75	225	1	12.5
2.	Above 32 to 50	75	225	2	12.5
3.	Above 50 to 100	75	225	3	12.5
4.	Above 100 to 250	66.66	200	3	12.5
5.	Above 250 to 500	50	150	3(4)	12.5
6.	Above 300 to 1000	40	120	6(8)	12.5
7.	Above 1000 to 1500	33.33	100	6(8)	12.5
8.	Above 1500 to 2250	33.33	100	9(12)	12.5
9.	Above 2250 to 3000	33.33	100	12(16)	12.5
10.	Above 3000 to 3750	33.33	100	15(20)	12.5
11.	Above 3750	33.33	100	18(24)	12.5