

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the work on these schemes are likely to start; and
- (d) the extent to which water supply in twin cities is likely to be improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Under the Centrally sponsored scheme for infrastructural Development in Mega-cities, which is being implemented in Hyderabad Mega-city, an amount of Rs. 73.43 crores has been sanctioned for development of various infrastructural facilities in the city. Improvement of water supply is one of the components which can be taken up under the Mega City Scheme.

(b) to (d) Under the Mega Cities Scheme, a composite scheme of water supply and sewerage with an estimated project cost of Rs. 112.00 crores has been approved. As per information available, an expenditure of Rs. 10.00 crores has already been incurred for implementation of the said scheme. This is likely to improve the distribution system of the water supply in the twin cities of Hyderabad-Secunderabad.

Construction of Permanent Defence Structure on Indo-Pak Border

1861. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO :
SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to build permanent defence structures on Indo-Pak border to contain terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Defence structures including permanent ones, on borders are made based on threat perception and tactical requirements. These are periodically reviewed and modified. It will not be in the interest of national security to disclose the details.

Appointment of Luggage Booking Agency

1862. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of norms/guidelines to appoint outdoor Railway Agency for booking of parcels/luggages under the liberalised schemes; and

- (b) the commission/service charges to be paid to the agent?

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) City Booking Agencies/Out Agencies are opened on public demand subject to traffic and financial justification and availability of a suitable contractor to run the Agency. The contractor is selected after inviting tender applications through Press Notifications.

The Agent is paid cartage charges for road transportation of packages from the Agency premises to the serving Railway Station. Commission is paid on the sale of railway tickets. These charges are paid as per rates quoted by the contractor in his tender application and accepted by the Railway Administration.

HUDCO

1863. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether large number of cases being contested by HUDCO and other agencies under the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment are pending in the various courts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, Court-wise;
- (c) whether there is a plan to set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Solicitor General to examine them; and
- (d) the steps taken/are proposed to be taken to mitigate the sufferings of the people and to ensue that in future, these agencies do not get involved in frivolous litigation?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

- (c) No, Sir.

(d) Directions have been issued to all our agencies not to get involved in frivolous litigation with citizen.