

1	2	3
18. Limestone	76,446	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Daman & Diu, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Pondicherry, Rajasthan, Sikkim, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.
19. Magnesite	233.329	Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.
20. Coal	196,029.88	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.
21. Lignite	26,150	Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.

Note : T-Tonnes

[English]

#### Extension of Kashod Airport at Gujarat

5270. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- whether all necessary facilities like shed, etc have been provided to the Kashod airport in Gujarat;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether any proposal for extension of the airport is under consideration of the Government; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Kashod Airport is suitable for operation of 50 seater aircraft. The terminal building can handle 50 passengers at a time. Presently Gujarat Airways operates through this airport.

- No, Sir.
- Does not arise.

#### Government Accommodation

5271. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- whether employees of Prasar Bharati are not entitled for allotment of Government accommodation;
- if so, whether the employees who have been allotted Government accommodation earlier have to surrender the quarter; and
- if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir, Prasar Bharti being a statutory body, its employees are not eligible for allotment from the General Pool.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Employees already occupying General Pool residential accommodation have been permitted to retain the same for five years upto 22nd November, 2002.

#### Import of Expensive and Risky ABB Locos

5272. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :  
SHRI RAJ BANSHI MAHTO :  
SHRI SITA RAM YADAV :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- Whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards news-item captioned, "Railways Pulled up for importing expensive, risky, ABB Locos" appearing in the Economic Times' dated June 15, 1998;
- if so, the facts reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- the reasons for not putting all the imported ABB locos in service;
- the steps taken by the Government for production of 6000 HP AC three phase locomotives indigenously; and
- the time by which the indigenous production is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The News item is based on a recent Comptroller & Auditor General's (C&AG) Report. The detailed reply on various issues mentioned in the Report will be sent to C&AG in due course.

(c) All locomotives including those assembled at CLW have been put in service.

(d) and (e) The process of transfer of technology from ABB at Chittaranjan Locomotives Works is in progress and

it is planned to start indigenous production of these locomotives during 1998-99.

[Translation]

**Flights on Mumbai-Ahmedabad-Indore-  
Calcutta Sector**

5273. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Flight No. 134/133 of Indian Airlines which was in operation between Mumbai-Ahmedabad-Indore and Calcutta has been discontinued:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the date by which it is likely to be re-operated?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This flight was withdrawn in 1992 because of shortage of operating crew.

(c) The traffic on these sectors is not adequate for operations with the existing Jet aircraft fleet of Indian Airlines. Shortage of smaller capacity aircraft and the related operating crew also do not permit operation of service on this route by Indian Airlines. Private operators are being encouraged to include new stations such as Indore in their network, subject to viability.

[English]

**Problems of Soldiers at Difficult  
Border Areas**

5274. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :  
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems faced by our jawans in difficult border areas like Siachin Glacier;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of jawans who lost their life or suffered from serious diseases due to severe cold in those areas during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to minimise their problems and also to compensate them in some other way?

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

(b) In Siachen area which is avalanche prone, blizzard swept and bitterly cold, our troops are deployed

on Saltoro Ridge at an average height of 19000 feet in sub-zero temperatures ranging from -5° to -50° Celsius. Living in such areas makes them prone to frost bite, snow blindness and various high altitude related sicknesses. Besides the difficult terrain and weather conditions, our troops also face almost daily shelling/firing by the enemy, which includes artillery and rocket fire.

(c) During 1995 to 1997, 31 Officers/Jawans were killed and 104 were wounded due to severe cold conditions in Siachen Glacier.

(d) In order to mitigate the hardships of the soldiers posted in Siachen Glacier and to boost their morale; various measures have been adopted which include speedy rotation of troops, provision of special extreme cold clothing items, appropriate shelters, modern communication system, and high calorie special diet. A special allowance called Siachen Allowance has also been sanctioned as follows:-

(i)	JCOs/ORs	Rs.4667/pm
(ii)	Officers	Rs.7000/-pm

**Civic Amenities in Assam**

5275. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Assam regarding financial assistance for civic amenities schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (c) There are two Centrally sponsored schemes: Low Cost Sanitation Scheme (LCS) and Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) being implemented by the Ministry for providing civic amenities in the urban areas of the Country.

Under the LCS, for construction of pour flush toilets where none exists and conversion of dry latrines into pour flush toilets, 27 schemes at a project cost of Rs.3908.27 lakhs involving subsidy of Rs.1284.59 lakhs have been sanctioned. There are no pending schemes for Assam for Low Cost Sanitation.

Under the AUWSP, applicable for towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 Census, 9 schemes for 9 towns have been received out of which 6 schemes for 6 towns have been approved at the