(b) if so, the details regarding parties and quantities thereof?

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THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Electric Train Sets

6322. SHRI SANTOSH KUMARGANG-WAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Railway mein ek minute per sava erore barbad karne ki taiyari" appeared in the daily Jansatta, dated 14 March, 1990:
- (b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons for procurement of Electric Terrain Sets at a high cost;
- (c) whether erstwhile members of the Railway Board has concurred with the said proposal; and
- (d) if not, the action being taken in this regard?

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

- (b) the prototype electric train set is meant for fast inter-city service of 400-450 kms. The proposed train set if introduced will not only make the journey faster but also will release line capacity in the saturated sections of Indian Railways for other traffic. The exact cost implications will be known when the commercial offers are opened.
 - (c) Yes, Sir.
 - (d) Does not arise.

Compensation for Acquisition of Land for Coal Mining in Palamu, Bihar

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6323. SHRIRAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: SHRIRAJ MANGAL MISHRA: SHRI JORAWAR RAM:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large area of land of farmers of Palamu district of Bihar has been acquired for mining of coal;
- (b) if so, the total area of land acquired and the amount of compensation paid so far;
- (c) whether any compensation is due to be paid; and
- (d) if so, when Government propose to make the outstanding payments to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). An area of 14548.52 acres of land consisting of forest tenancy and GMK land has been notified under Section 9 of Coal Bearing Area (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957 for acquisition of land in the District of Palamu (Bihar). However, physical possession of the land has not yet been taken and the owners of the land are continuing to use it as before. The compensation rolls have, therefore, not yet been prepared and no compensation payment has so far been made. The compensation will be paid as and when Central Coalfields Limited take physical possession of the land, depending upon their requirements to start coal mining operations.