

Performance of Railways

*418. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to ensure that the performance of the Railways is not adversely affected, as it happened in 1985-86 due to the large number of wagons having been "left behind" in the collieries on the Eastern and the South Eastern Railways (page 27 Economic Review, 1985-86);

(b) whether adequate number of wagons is being made available for coal offerings; and

(c) the wagon turn-round time achieved during the first three months of 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (c). A statement is given below.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Statement

Close coordination is maintained at the field level with Coal companies and with the Department of Coal at the ministerial level to minimise the incidence of wagons, "left behind".

The details for the broad gauge system are as under :

<i>Month</i>	<i>Turn-round in days</i>
April '86	10.5
May '86	11.6
June '86	12.1

New airport at Jabalpur

*419. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to build a new airport in Jabalpur, the present being a temporary one; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). The proposal for construction of a new airport in Jabalpur is at present at a very preliminary stage. Details can only be furnished after reaching a firm conclusion regarding the need for a new airport and the availability of funds for such a project.

Utilisation of irrigation potential in tribal and backward areas

*420. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to plan integrated water resources for major irrigation schemes in the near future;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to utilise irrigation potential in the tribal and backward areas of the country;

(c) whether Government have any plan for training and research programme specially for backward areas in the use of water resources; and

(d) if so, the details of such training scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). Integrated water resources development schemes including schemes in tribal and backward areas, are planned by State Governments to harness the irrigation potential.

(c) and (d). The training in land and water management in water and Land Management Institutes and various Farmers' Training Programmes cater to the needs of the backward areas also.

[Translation]

Exploitation of water potential of Uttar Pradesh

*421. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :