

that too only from the States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. My constituency comprises Adivasi areas. No one from my constituency has been recruited in it. When the P.O.H. work of diesel and electric locomotive is started there, will the people from my area get work or not ?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :** I have noted down whatever the hon. Member has suggested. As it is, the Government's policy is to provide employment to the weaker sections, especially to the Harijans and Adivasis. But to put it in writing in the employment policy that people belonging to a particular area should be given employment is very difficult.

**SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Western Railway, many workshops for repair work of steam and diesel locomotives are there including one in Ratlam. Due to complete electrification of the railway lines, these workshops are closing down. It is leading to considerable unemployment in the area. I want that such workshops should not be closed down so that the people are not rendered unemployed. In view of this, will the hon. Minister see that work in these workshops continues ?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :** This question has no connection with the workshop at Dahod. So far as the P.O.H. is concerned, P.O.H. work of diesel and electric locomotives is not carried out at Ratlam.

[*English*]

**PROF. P.J. KURIEN :** Sir, I would only like to know whether it has come to the notice of the hon. Minister that the steam loco and the coaches supplied to the Southern Railway, especially for passenger trains, are very old and dilapidated. I have myself travelled and had the experience. So, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has got such complaints and if so, what action is being taken.

**MR. SPEAKER :** This has no connection to this question.

**PROF. P. J. KURIEN :** I have said 'loco', Sir...(*Interruptions*). It is a question on overhauling.

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :** Sir, all I would like to tell the hon. Member is that last month the Southern Railway achieved about 98 per cent punctuality. It indicates that the failures of locos is not that much otherwise the punctuality would not have been so good.

[*Translation*]

Construction work on Yamuna Bridge  
Near I S.B.T., Delhi

\*601. **SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA† :**  
**SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :**

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of construction work on Yamuna bridge near I S.B.T., Delhi;

(b) whether it was targetted to be completed by May, 1987;

(c) if so, whether it is likely to be completed by the scheduled date; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (d). Under the Constitution, Government of India are primarily concerned with roads declared as National Highways only. As the bridge over river Yamuna in Delhi falls on "Other Roads" the Public Works Department (Delhi Administration) are handling the Project. According to them 65% of the work has been completed so far. It will not be possible to complete the Project by May, 1987 on account of various reasons like encroachment on the site, involvement of numerous authorities like Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking, Posts and Telegraphs Department and Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking for shifting of sewer lines, electric cables, telephone cables etc. and also change in designs to accommodate underground services.

**SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :** Like other Members I have also

high regard for Shri Rejesh Pilot. But I am sorry to say that he has been misled.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : For all points.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : He has been misled by Delhi Administration. I am sorry to say this that the answer is misleading the House. In the answer itself Shri Rajesh Pilot says—"According to them" not according to him or his Ministry.

He says, "According to them 65% of the work has been completed so far".

"According to them" means according to the Lt. Governor. But on the other hand, the Lt. Governor says—

[Translation]

I had asked whether it was the indolence of the N.B.C.C. which was causing delay in the construction work on Yamuna bridge near I.S.B.T. ?

To this the reply was that the Lt. Governor, hon. Shri H.K.L. Kapoor, had apprised the hon. Minister of Urban Department Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai, of his concern through a secret letter No... and I had asked her to pull up the Public Sector Corporation.

It was stated in the letter that when the tenders were floated, the tender of the Uttar Pradesh Bridge Corporation was lower than that of the NBCC, but the contract was awarded to the latter. So NBCC is responsible now for not having constructed the bridge.

[English]

You are saying that, according to them, these are the reasons. N.B.C.C. is missing. Please tell me whether N.B.C.C. is responsible or not.

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, N.B.C.C.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is quoting confidential letter to a lady.

MR. SPEAKER : But that happens to be otherwise...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I had stated initially, this work is being handled by the Delhi Administration. So I had to say "according to them". I shall certainly get the information given by the hon. Member verified to find out the extent of fault of the NBCC and I shall certainly inform the hon. Minister personally about it.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Sir, leave this controversy aside and kindly get an overbridge constructed over the river Ganga in Bhagalpur... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bhagwatji, there is a saying in Punjabi : 'Teri mile na mile, mere do than choye gaye.'

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : Minister has almost conceded that the fault lies with N.B.C.C. (Interruptions). I said 'almost'.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You are using Algebra.

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : My only request is that delay is in the projects which are of utmost national importance whether it is this bridge or double lining, four lining, from Delhi to Amritsar—all projects are getting delayed. Sir, through you I put categorical question—will the Minister assure this House that Government will take into consideration and make an overall study for the reasons of delay in the completion of projects especially this Yamuna bridge and other bridges and take effective measures to expedite the matter ?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : As far as the delay in the construction of this bridge is concerned, when they projected that it will be completed by May 1987—this work started in May 1984—when they

said that by May 1987 the work will be completed, on the basis of the plan and work I have gone through. I think, they gave a slightly wrong figure. They should have gone for four years or so but they went for three years. They have given me a date, by end of 1988, that by December 1988 this bridge will be completed. We have a system whereby we monitor big projects and important projects.

Sir, the hon. Member has mentioned about four-lining and other projects. They are all in time. Sir, this is the first time that the Government has inculcated the culture of accountability, and the system of monitoring the progress of the project in our system. So, we are fully aware that such important projects should be monitored and I assure the House that the monitoring has the highest priority in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister had laid the foundation stone of a flyover across the National Highway number 12 in last September. I want to know about the progress there and the time by which it will be completed ?

MR. SPEAKER : If you want to submit something, it should be connected with the main question.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : What about the one at Jhunjhunu ?  
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It does not relate to Jhunjhunu or Sikar... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, I do not have the details of the project. I will supply the information to the hon. Member afterwards.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : May I know from the hon. Minister if his Department has carried out any survey to find out as to how many more bridges are required over the Yamuna River to ensure smooth flow of traffic to and from the

capital ? If so, may I know the results of the survey ?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, I will supply this information to the hon. Member. I do not have the information at this time.

#### Scheme to assist Sportspersons

\*602. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH† :  
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-  
CHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the plight and economic hardships being faced by some eminent sportspersons of yester-years in Delhi and other places;

(b) whether any scheme to give financial assistance to such sportspersons is being contemplated; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) to (c). Government have in operation the scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons with a view to rendering, according to set criteria, financial assistance to eligible sportspersons and their families facing financial hardship. The scheme provides for financial assistance up to Rs. 1 lakh or pension up to Rs. 700 per month depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case.

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Sir, we have been reading in the newspapers about the Arjun award winners, Asiad and Olympic medal winners. It is stated that they are selling their medals for meeting the treatment cost. Has your Department prepared a list of eligible sportspersons ? If so, how many persons are in the eligible list for assistance and how many persons have already been given the help ?