

Sitarampur-Danapur-Mugahalsarai via main line of Eastern Railway including Rampur Dumra-Garhara-Barauni	Eastern Railway
Erode-Palghat-Ernakulam including Cochin Harbour Terminus	Southern Railway
Kharagpur/Nimpura-Bhubaneswar including branch line of Talcher-cutback-Paradip.	Souther Eastern Railway
Bhubaneswar-Kottavalasa.	South Eastern Railway
Udhna-Jalgaon.	Western Railway

#### Metropolitan Transport Projects

1. Dum-Dum-Tollygunge	Metro Railway, Calcutta
2. Chennai Beach-Luz MRTS	Southern Railway, Central
3. Belapur-Panvel doubling of commuter line	Railway Central Railway
4. Thane-Turbhe-Nerul-Vashi line	Western Railway Southern
5. Quadrupling between Borivili-Virar	Railway Central Railway
6. Luz-Velachery extension of MRTS.	
7. Belapur/Nerul-Seawood-Uran double line	

#### Computerisation

1. Freight Operation Information and Control Systems for Indian Railways.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Sir, I must compliment the hon. Minister for giving a very detailed reply to the question. There is a very bold programme given here for the completion of the ongoing projects. There are lots of them. So many of them are from South India. I am very happy about it. There is no time frame given. I would like to know whether it will be completed this year or within two years or three years. What is the time span for each of these projects

श्री नीतीश कुमार : सर, टाइम स्पेन के बारे में हर प्रोजेक्ट का बताना तो संभव नहीं है लेकिन अगर वह किसी प्रोजेक्ट के बारे में दिलचस्पी रखते हों और उसके टाइप फ्रेम के बारे में अगर लिखकर भेजेगे तो हम उसके बारे में सूचना उन्हें दे सकते हैं। कुछ प्रोजेक्ट्स के टाइम फ्रेम तो डिफाइड हैं लेकिन सारे प्रोजेक्ट्स के टाइम फ्रेम डिफाइड करना संभव नहीं है।

#### Compulsory Universalisation of Primary Education

\*152. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken till date, by the Union Government for ensuring

compulsory universalisation of primary education in the country;

- (b) the expected amount of money to be spent therefor State-wise; and

- (c) by when the target is set to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Statement

(a) to (c) In pursuance of Article 45 of the Directive Principles, the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 as modified in 1992, states that free and compulsory elementary education of satisfactory quality shall be provided to all children upto the age of 14 years before we enter the 21st century.

The Central Government is augmenting the efforts of the State Government towards achieving Universalisation of Primary Education through Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Operation Blackboard, Teacher Education, Non-formal;

Education, National Programme of Nutritional Support for Primary Education (Commonly known as Mid-day Meals Programme) and District Primary Education Programme.

The Working Group on Elementary Education for 9th Five Year Plan has recommended tentative outlay of Rs. 79,260 crore in the Central Sector and Rs. 46,393 crore in the State Sector. Information about State-wise allocations for achieving Universalisation of Elementary Education are not available as 9th Five Year Plan has not been finalised.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Sir, I would like to know how and when the Union Government proposes to raise the required amount of money to ensure universalisation of primary education, at least after half a century of our independence.

DR. M. M. JOSHI: Sir, the working group on elementary education for the Ninth Five Year Plan has recommended a tentative outlay of Rs. 79,260 crores in the Central sector and Rs. 46,393 crores in the State sector. Now this is the amount of money which is required for universalisation of elementary education. The Government is trying its best to raise the resources, but this time the earlier Government left us with a deficit of more than one lakh crores. After all, it is the nation's endeavour and the growth in the nation's economy will be providing for the necessary amount of money. But the Government is committed to spending six per cent of the GDP in a phased manner for the purposes of education. I can assure you that this Government is taking all efforts for strengthening elementary and primary education.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Incidents of Fire in Trains

\*141. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 21 wagons carrying takers of oil caught fire following derailment of a train going from Trombay to Satna; if so, the details of the incident including the progress of enquiry, if any, conducted by his Ministry;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Railways ill-equipped to tackle fires' which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 10th May, 1998; and

(c) if so, the details of time-bound action plan, if any, drawn out by his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. On 2.5.1998, 21 tank wagons of Trombay—Satna Oil Tank Special Goods train carrying Petroleum products derailed and subsequently caught fire between Pan-kheri and Palichauk Road stations on Central Railway's Jabalpur Division.

The cause of this accident was established as cold breakage of journal of the culprit wagon.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Indian Railways accord highest priority to safety in train operations. The number of cases of fire on Indian Railways has been steadily going down, as can be seen from the figures below.

Year	No Of Fire Cases	Total Conse- quential Accidents
1960-61	405	2131
1970-71	12	840
1980-81	29	1013
1990-91	9	532
1997-98*	6	396

\*Figures are provisional.