Japanese technical know-how for the Konkan Railway Project

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*40. SHRI KAPTL VERMA; SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

- (a) whether technical Japanese know-how has for the been sought Indian Railway projects, particularly the underground tunelling technology for the Konkan project;
- (b) if so, the highlights of the proposals being taken up;
- (c) what was the outcome of the tslks with a Japanese team which had visited India in November 1990; and
- (d) whether a joint working group has been set up in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS BHAKTA CHAR AN DAS): (a) to (d) During the 2nd meeting of the Indo-J. Toan Working Group for Railways held in November, 1990; areas of Indo-Japanese cooperation in various railway fields were identified and takennote of by the Japanese delegation. The fields include Studies for tunnelling in various geotechnical formations including those for Konkan Railways. No Joint Working Group has been set up exclusively for the Konkan Railway Project.

Villages without Drinking Water facilities

- 118. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of villages in the country at present and the number of villages, Statewise, which are still without potable water facility;
- (b) the steps taken so far and being taken to expedite drinking water facilities in those villages; and

(c) whether Government have any timebound programme in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVE- -LOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH); (a) As per the reports received so far from various States/ UTs at present, there are 7328 'No Source' proplem villages yet to be provided with safe drinking water facilities. The number of such villages, Statewise, is given in the attached Statement. (See below).

- (b) 4166 'No Source' problem villages are likely to be covered by 31-3-91 under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme, Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme etc.
- (c) Most of the remaining 3162 problem villages are likely to be covered in the second year of VIII Plan. However, the actual time frame for coverage of hard core problem villages hi hilly areas in Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab etc. will depend upon the availability of financial resources in VIII Plan, infrastructure, normal time required for completion of schemes etc.

Statement Mem vilhget Balance as Number of 'No Source' pri on 1-12-1990 State/UTs No. 319 1. Assam

2.	Bihar	26
3.	Gujarat .	72
4.	Haryana .	88
5.	Himachal Pradesh	923
6.	Jammu & Kashmir .	847
7.	Madhya Pradesh	109
8.	Meghalaya	1327

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SI. No	State/ UTs.	Balance as on 1-12-190
	013.	
9.	Maharashtra	98
10.	Mizoram .	61
13.	Nagaland .	26
12.	Orissa	1297
12.	Punjab .	741
14	Rajasthan	345
15.	Sikkim	3
16.	Tamil Nadu	9
17.	Tripura .	130
IS.	Uttar Pradesh	907
	TOTAL:	"7328"

Action Plan to eradicate corruption in the Railways

119. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS foe please to state:

- (a) whether Government have initiated any action plan to eradicate corruption in railway services in mass contact areas:
 - (to) if so, the details of the plan; and (c) the results achieved till date?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The important feature of the action plan to eradicate corruption in railways services in mass contact areas include, on the one hand, intensification of perventive checks, investigation of complaints of corruption and deterrent punishments in proven cases, and educating rail users not to encourage staff indulging in malpractices, on the other. In addition, results achieved are given publicity through the media.
- (c) the number of vigilance checks has been stepped up by 29 per cent.

and 10 per cent, more employees have been booked upto 30.11.1990 as compared to last year. Intensification of vigilance activities itself discourages corrupt practices.

Ban on the slaughter of cows and buffaloes

120. SHRT KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE foe pleased to state:

- (a) the States where slaughter of milk yielding cows and buffaloes is banned.
- (b) the States which have not so far imposed the ban together with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to impose the ban in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHAND-BHAI SHAH); (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Proposal for conversion of Metre Gauge into Broad Gauge

- 121. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHAN-KER DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received proposals for conversion of several Metre gauge lines into Broad gauge;
- (b) if so, how many proposals of them have been accepted so far; and
- (c) the grounds on which these proposals were found acceptable?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANSEHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (to) At present 11 Gauge Conversion Projects are in progress.
- (c) On economic, operational and strategic considerations.