

neighboring countries. However, these have not been confirmed by the State Governments. The State Governments have been advised by the Department of Fertilizers to keep a vigil and to check smuggling of fertilizers from India to other neighboring countries through land and sea routes.

Similarly Union Home Ministry has also alerted Border guarding forces viz., Border Security Force (BSF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Assam Rifles and Sashastra Seema Bal and Coast Guard to maintain strict vigilance on the borders to curb smuggling of fertilizers. Further Ministry of Home Affairs has also addressed the Chief Secretaries of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal to sensitize the authorities concerned to curb the smuggling of fertilizers into the neighboring countries.

Agreement with Government of Sri Lanka

*250. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have entered into an agreement with Government of Sri Lanka for a \$ 149 million reconstruction project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this project would require further investment from Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) Ircon International Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of Ministry of Railways, has entered into an agreement on 18.11.2011, with Government of Sri Lanka through Sri Lankan Railways for the reconstruction of Railway line from Pallai to Kankesanthurai in Northern Province of Sri Lanka under Indian Line of Credit, at a total cost of US \$ 149.34 million.

- (c) No, Sir. There is no investment from Government of India on this project.
- (d) Does not arise.

Exemption of Government teachers from non-teaching activities

† * 251. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that teachers of Government schools are still being used non-teaching works;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the National Knowledge Commission had expressed concern over it;

(c) the extent to which Government agrees with the concerns of the Commission; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for exempting Government teachers from non-teaching works?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) According to the District Information System for Education (DISE), during 2009-10 on an all India average, 9.55% teachers in primary and upper primary schools were involved in non-teaching assignments for 14 days.

(b) The National Knowledge Commission in the document titled "Report to the Nation" (2006-2009) has expressed concern regarding involvement of school teachers in non-teaching assignments such as elections, data collection, etc.

(c) and (d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which has become operative from 1st April, 2010, *inter alia* provides that no teacher shall be deployed for any non-educational purpose, other than for decennial population census, disaster relief duties or duties relating to elections to the local authority, State Legislatures or Parliament. The Government has also issued Guidelines under the RTE Act clarifying the nature of duties which teachers can be assigned for elections.

Slaughtering of cows/Bullocks

*252. SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of slaughter houses for slaughtering cows/bullocks in the country on the date of commencement of the Constitution;

(b) the number of slaughter houses for slaughtering cows/bullocks at present; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to implement Article 48 of the Constitution?