

ries such as drivers, guards, station masters etc.

- (vi) Intensive training of running, operation and maintenance staff is conducted.
- (vii) Ultrasonic testing of rails and axles are being resorted to identify fractures.
- (viii) Maintenance and upkeeping of signalling equipment is being given utmost attention.
- (ix) Special emphasis is being laid on adherence to laid down procedures for reception and despatch of trains at stations.

Oil Seeds

*480. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria being adopted for declaring a seed as oil seed and oil as edible oil by the Government of India;
- (b) the incentives which are provided to the oilseeds growers;
- (c) whether the production of coconut has increased after declaring coconut as oil seed; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Seeds of annually cultivated crops (with the exception of perennial variety of castor) which are used primarily for oil extraction are termed as oilseeds. The criterion adopted by Bureau of Indian Standards to determine edibility of oil involves study of history of use, analytical examination, testing on rates, test-

ing on other animals and human testing.

(b) Oil-seeds growers are provided key inputs like certified seeds, plant protection chemicals, farm implements etc. at subsidised rates under the Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP).

(c) and (d). Government of India declared coconut as an oilseed of tree origin in October, 1990. The production of coconut in the year 1992-92 has been reported in provisional estimate at 10043.2 million nuts against 9700.2 million nuts in 1990-91.

SC/ST Officers in Central Pollution Control Board

4598. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reserved quota of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for promotion to the grade of officers in the Central Pollution Control Board has been maintained in 1991-92;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to clear the backlog, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMLA NATH): (a) and (b). The reserved quota of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for promotions has not been maintained, as no promotions were effected in the Central Pollution Control Board in 1991-92.

(c) Steps have been initiated by Central Pollution Control Board to fill up the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes quota for promotion, as directed by the Government