

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Due to constraint of resources and relative priority for electrification of the high density routes, there is at present, no proposal to take up electrification of Delhi - Ahmedabad section.

(f) There is no proposal at present.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) Yes, Sir.

(i) It is proposed to introduce a weekly Rajdhani Express between Delhi and Ahmedabad via Jaipur during 1997-98 on availability of higher speed on the converted section.

#### Gauge Conversion

3062. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :  
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :  
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :  
SHRI N. J. RATHWA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some proposals from the Government of Gujarat for conversion of metre gauge/narrow gauge lines into broad gauge lines during 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) the details of the metre gauge/narrow gauge lines proposed to be taken up for conversion during the next three years;

(e) the budgetary allocation made for these conversion during the current financial year;

(f) whether the Government have any plan to take up conversion projects in Gujarat through private funding; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (g) the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Child Labour

3063. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :  
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether child labour in India contributes more than 20% of the country's GNP;

(b) the percentage of GNP contributed by child labour during Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans;

(c) the specific steps taken during the above period to eliminate child labour atleast in hazardous jobs and industries; and

(d) the countries where child labour contributes over 10% of GNP?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The estimates of National Product are derived from the estimates of Domestic Product, which are compiled by kind of economic activity and by broad institutional categories, like organized and unorganized and public sectors. These estimates are not made by age-group.

(c) Government have taken a series of steps for the elimination of child labour working in hazardous occupations. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, the employment of children is prohibited in 7 occupations and 18 processes contained in parts A and B of the schedule to the Act. There are also legal provisions in various other labour laws safeguarding the interest of working children. Apart from legal measures, government have taken steps for withdrawal and rehabilitation of child labour working in hazardous occupations. 76 child labour projects have been set up for the rehabilitation of around 1.5 lakh children working in hazardous occupations. A major activity undertaken under the child labour project is the establishment of special schools to provide non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc. to children withdrawn from employment. As per the available information, around 1.05 lakh children are already enrolled in the special schools. Besides opening of child labour projects, funds have been sanctioned for carrying out survey on child labour in 123 districts and for awareness generation against the evils of child labour in 133 districts.

(d) No such information is available.

[Translation]

#### Passenger Amenities at Railway Stations in Uttar Pradesh

3064. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :  
SHRI D.P. YADAV :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the railway stations in Uttar Pradesh particularly at Sambhal railway station where no waiting rooms, rest houses, potable water and platform with roof are available;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the number of cases referred to the Railway Advisory Board; and

(d) the time by which the above mentioned facilities are likely to be provided at all railway stations in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d) Facilities such as drinking water and waiting halls are provided at all stations. Amenities like sheds on platforms and waiting rooms etc. are provided based on the importance of the station, the volume of traffic handled at the station and the number of long distance trains stopping, originating or terminating at the station. Therefore, the availability of amenities at all stations will not be uniform. Important stations and stations with a large volume of traffic are provided with all amenities whereas smaller stations, with a relatively meagre volume of traffic, are not provided with the same quantum of amenities.

Sambhal Hatim Sarai station is provided with waiting room, waiting hall, drinking water arrangements and shed on platform and the same are adequate for the present volume of traffic handled at the station.

#### **Serial on Birth Centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose**

3065. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to produce a Doordarshan serial on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose to commemorate his birth centenary year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. It may, however, be stated that a documentary on the life of Netaji has already been shown on DD-1 on 23rd January, 1997.

#### **Safety Norms in Mines**

3066. SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mines in the country which have reached their optimum exploitation;

(b) whether the safety norms in these mines are being observed scrupulously;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether amount of compensation has recently been increased; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Safety norms in mines that have been prescribed are not dependent on the degree of exploitation of any

individual mine. Therefore information on number of mines that have reached optimum exploitation level is not maintained and is not available.

(d) and (e) The Government have amended the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, in the year 1995 *inter-alia* to enhance the minimum amount of compensation payable under the Act for death and permanent total disablement from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- and from Rs. 24,000/- to Rs. 60,000/- respectively. The monthly wage limit for determining the maximum amount of compensation has also been enhanced from Rs. 1,000/- to Rs. 2,000/-. In addition, a provision for payment of Rs. 1,000/- towards funeral expenses of the deceased workmen has also been made.

#### **Arbitrary Termination of Workers in Industrial Houses**

3067. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that large industrial houses resorted to contract labour in various fields so as to make it convenient for the managements to drive them out;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interest of workers;

(c) whether any legal protection is being considered to help the workers in case of arbitrary termination; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Employment of contract labour and other related matters are regulated as per the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 and the rules framed thereunder. Section 10 of this Act empowers the appropriate to prohibit employment of contract labour in any process, operation or other work in any establishment. Enforcement of these provisions is done by the concerned appropriate Government and violations of the same are punishable as per provisions of the Act. Provisions of this Act are considered adequate for meeting all bonafide concerns with respect to contract workers.

#### **Employment in Urban and Rural Areas**

3068. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched many schemes to provide employment to the unemployed persons;

(b) if so, the schemes launched in rural and urban areas and the time when these schemes were launched, separately;

(c) whether the Government have estimated the number of unemployed persons who are proposed to be provided employment under the each scheme; and