

[Translation]

Rice Research Centre

3945. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the names of rice producing areas of Rajasthan;
- (b) whether the Government are considering to set up a Rice Research Centre in Kota-Bundi;
- (c) if so, the time by which it is proposed to be set up; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for not setting up the Centre at Kota-Bundi while there is a vast scope of production of the fine quality rice?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The major rice producing areas of Rajasthan are the districts of Banswara, Dungarpur, Kota-Bundi, Udaipur, Chittorgarh and Sriganganagar.

(b) There is already a centre of All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project (ICAR) in operation at Agriculture Research Station, Kota under Rajasthan Agriculture University.

- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Bankura Damodar Railway

3946. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to run Bankura Damodar Railway train of the South Eastern Railway by diesel engine; and
- (b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Sir, the Bankura-Damodar Railway is a privately owned Railway and is not a part of the South Eastern Railway. The Government does not propose to run the Bankura-Damodar Railway train by Diesel engine.

- (b) Does not arise.

Dolphin Population

3947. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any study has been made on the Dolphin population in the Indian waters;
- (b) if so, the details of findings thereof;
- (c) whether cases of killing of Dolphins are being reported;
- (d) if so, the details of such reports during 1995 and 1996 till date; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the 1991 report of a survey conducted by the Zoological Survey of India, the Dolphins are most seen in the Chambal, Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers of India. They have estimated a population of river Dolphin as 500-750 in Ganges and its tributaries, 500 in Brahmaputra, 43-47 in Chambal and 3000-3500 in estuarine belt.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Unreserved Coaches

3948. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 92 dated July 16, 1996 and state :

- (a) the time by which and the destinations from where the short distance stopping trains with unreserved coaches are proposed to be introduced; and
- (b) the names of the trains to which additional unreserved coaches are proposed to be attached?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Introduction of trains is a continuous process on the Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources. However, following short distance passenger trains are proposed to be introduced during 1996-97 :

1. A shuttle train between Ajmer and Jaipur.
2. A Passenger train between Delhi and Sharnli.
3. A Fast Passenger train between Madurai and Coimbatore.
4. A Passenger train between Ratangarh and Degana.
5. An additional Main Line Electric Multiple Unit service between Asansol and Durgapur.

6. Main Line Electric Multiple Unit services are proposed to be introduced on the following sections :

- (i) Panipat-Ambala
- (ii) Dahod-Ratlam
- (iii) Anand-Godhra
- (iv) Nagpur-Badnera

7. Diesel Multiple Unit/Push Pull/Air brake shuttle services are proposed to be introduced on the following sections :

- (i) Amritsar-Pathankot
- (ii) Vijayawada-Narsapur
- (iii) Satna-Rewa
- (iv) Satna-Manikpur
- (v) Ahmedabad-Mehsana-Abu Road
- (vi) New Jalpaiguri area
- (vii) Shoranur-Nilambur
- (viii) Cuttack-Paradeep
- (ix) Katihar-Mansi-Barauni

(b) An additional 2nd class unreserved coach is being provided on 6039/6040 Madras-Varanasi Express and 6043/6044 Madras-Patna Express from 1-10-1996. In addition, one 2nd class unreserved coach will be provided between Pathankot and Barkakana on 8101/8102 Muri Express from October 1996.

Besides restoring 3039/3040 Delhi-Howrah Janta Express, the frequency of 5209/5210 Amritsar-Barauni Jansewa Express is also being increased from biweekly to triweekly from October 1996 thereby substantially increasing the unreserved accommodation for passengers.

[English]

Stoppage at Mulanthuruthy

3949. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to provide a stoppage of Vanchind or Venad Express running through Kerala at Mulanthuruthy;

(b) if so, whether it has been implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is not commercially justified.

Sub Standard Fertilizer

3950. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly 14,000 tonnes of urea-imported for Hindustan Lever involving National Fertilizers Limited has been found sub-standard and harmful for the crop;

(b) if so, the name of the country from which the urea has been imported;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the report of the inquiry has been submitted to the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Out of the total material discharged from vessel 'Sea Venus' at Sagour Port and subject to quality check, 6514 MTs of Urea was found to meet the quality specifications as prescribed in the Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO) 1985. The balance 11.736 deficient in particle size.

(b) This consignment of urea was imported from Romania.

(c) to (e) Based on the findings of the Regional Fertilizer Control Laboratory, Kalyani, which conducted the quality check, the distribution to farmers of the entire quantity declared non-standard was stopped. Separately, M/s. National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) have been, in accordance with the prescribed guidelines, issued notice for imposition of penalty for the deviation in particle size.

Milk Powder

3951. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the milk powder is being imported in the country from the foreign suppliers by the Government and private agencies;

(b) if so, the names of supplier countries/agencies and the quantum imported during each of the last three years;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken to ensure that the imported milk powder is of the requisite standard quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF