

(b) whether it is also a fact that diesel engines intended for goods trains were diverted for these workers' special trains on 2nd June, 1977; end

(c) if so, whether it is the policy of the Government to permit all Railway employees to have special free trains for attending their Conferences?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) Five pairs of special trains were run to and from Madras for clearance of delegates attending a trade union conference convened by the Southern Railway Mazdoor Union at Madras on 2nd June, 1977.

(b) Since the number of coaches on these specials were as many as 18, which could not be hauled by steam locomotives, diesel engines were utilized.

(c). No. It is however, the practice on the railways that whenever there is an extra rush of traffic which cannot be cleared by normal train services and even by attaching additional bogies to regular trains, special trains are arranged at railways convenience to clear the rush of passengers.

Employment of Persons to look after Unmanned Gates

2621. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unmanned gates in Indian Railways; and

(b) whether Government propose to employ some people to look after the unmanned gates on a consolidated pay in order to provide rural employment and to avoid railway accidents at such gates?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) As on 31st March, 1976, there were 22,449 unmanned level crossings on the Indian Railways.

(b) The Railways undertake periodical census of road and rail traffic at unmanned level crossings to review the need for their manning, taking into account various factors such as density of traffic, visibility, accident proneness, etc. Based on such reviews, a certain number of level crossings is manned every year in consultation with the State Governments. During the five years from 1971-72 to 1975-76, 234 level crossings were manned.

In the interest of safety, gatemen employed for manning level crossings are required to possess some knowledge and experience of using signals, train working, action to be taken in the case of emergency and so on. They are also required to be medically fit as per norms laid down by the Railways.

It would thus be appreciated that employing people without proper training and knowledge of railway working will neither improve matters nor help in reducing accidents at the unmanned level crossings. Moreover, it would be extremely difficult to exercise necessary control to ensure that such people perform their duties effectively.

There is therefore, no proposal to employ people to look after unmanned gates on a consolidated pay in order to provide rural employment and to avoid railway accidents.

Casual Labourers in Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway

2622. SHRI K. B. CHETTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of casual labourers employed year-wise during

the last three years in Darjeeling Himalayan Railway;

(b) total number of casual labourers absorbed in permanent vacancies;

(c) total number of casual labourers retrenched during the last three years; and

(d) the present policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a)

Year	No. of casual labour employed.
1974	90
1975	56
1976	72

(b) None.

पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्बरक मन्त्री (श्री हेमवती नन्धन बहुगुणा) : 1976-77 के दौरान उर्बरकों के उत्पादन तथा आयात के अपेक्षित अ्यारे निम्न प्रकार है :—

(मात्रा लाख मीटरी टनों में)

	नाइट्रोजन	फास्फेट	पोटाश
(i) देशी उत्पादन	19.00	4.80	पोटाश का कोई देशी उत्पादन नहीं है।
(ii) आयात	7.50	0.23	2.78

रीजा लोको शैंड में गाड़ी का पटरी से उतर जाना

2624. श्री सुरेन्द्र बिष्णम : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर रेलवे में रीजा लोको शैंड में मई-जून, 1977 में गाड़ियों के पटरी से उतर जाने की अनेक घटनाओं के क्या कारण हैं ; और

30(c) 218.

(d) Casual labourers are engaged for short-term, intermittent and sporadic works and are discharged on completion of the works. Wherever possible they are absorbed in regular cadre after screening, subject to the availability of vacancies to the extent of 50 per cent of the posts available (on the N.F. Railway).

आयात किये गये देश में उत्पादित उर्बरकों की मात्रा]

2623. श्री सुरेन्द्र बिष्णम : क्या पेट्रोलियम तथा रसायन और उर्बरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि 1976-77 में उर्बरकों का कितनी मात्रा में आयात किया गया था तथा भारत में उनका कितना उत्पादन हुआ ?

(ख) क्या यह घटनायें इस कारण घटीं क्योंकि ए० पी० इन्ड्यु० आई०, रीजा ने अपनी जिम्मेदारियों को ठीक ढंग से नहीं निभाया और इस कारण रेलवे को भारी हानि उठानी पड़ी ?

रेल मन्त्री (प्रो० मधु दण्डवते) : (क) मई और जून, 1977 के दौरान रीजा लोको शैंड में पटरी से कोई गाड़ी नहीं उतरी थी।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता :