

presently being carried under the above mentioned zones ; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No Sir. Only three zones i.e., Western, Central and Northern Railways, pass through Rajasthan.

(b) out of a total of 5981 kms of track in Rajasthan, approximately 1103 km of track is due renewal;

(c) No Sir. Track is kept in safe condition and no untoward incident is expected;

(d) and (e) Track renewal is a continuous process. In 1985-86, following track renewal is targeted for completion in Rajasthan :

Western Railway	303 km
Northern Railway	125 km
	-----
Total:	428 km
	-----

#### Claims Paid by Railway Department

2696. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of payment made against the claims pertaining to Railway Department during the last three years, with year-wise break-up ;

(b) the cause responsible for the payment of claims ;

(c) whether the Department has conducted any detailed enquiry in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The amount of payment made against claims for compensation by the Railways during the last three years was :-

1982-83 — Rs. 2,192.63 lakhs

1983-84 — Rs. 3,053.02 lakhs

1984-85 — Rs. 3,302.80 lakhs

(b) Claims for compensation arise on account of loss of consignments, theft, pilferage, breakage, damage by wet and delay in transit etc.

(c) Normally, detailed enquiries are made before the claim cases are settled.

[English]

#### Vayudoot Service for Jaisalmer

2697. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jaisalmer (Rajasthan) which is an important place from the tourism point of view, has not been linked by Vayudoot service ; and

(b) the date by which Vayudoot service is likely to start operating from Jaisalmer.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Vayudoot have provided an airlink to Jaisalmer on three days a week on the route Delhi—Jaipur—Jodhpur—Jaisalmer with effect from 2.10.1985.

#### Loss of Life and Property due to Flood in Bihar

2698. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR VADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than half a dozen districts and thousands of villages of North Bihar were affected by devastating floods this year ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the number of persons killed and loss of property suffered due to these floods ; and

(d) the action taken and proposed to