

district which is a backward area of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) National Bicycle Corporation of India Limited have two units and as per provisional figures, their production during 1989-90 was 42,491 cycles.

(b) No, Sir.

[English]

Allotment of Berths at Varanasi and Mughalsarai Stations

5248. DR. GOLAM YAZDANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received that instead of following the waiting lists, berths are allotted at random at Varanasi and Mughalsarai railway stations which have over ten minutes halts for important trains; and

(b) if so, the action initiated to curb this practice?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Some complaints have come to notice.

(b) with a view to ensure that berths/seats are allotted strictly on the basis of priority, checks are conducted from time to time. Violation if any, on the part of the staff is viewed seriously and defaulting staff punished suitably.

[Translation]

Compensation for Victims of Accident in Daya Basti, Delhi

5249. SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some innocent children of J.J. colony died on 21st March, 1990 due to caving in of earth at Daya Basti Railway Track near Jakhira flyover while an express train was passing from there;

(b) if so, whether the said accident occurred due to negligence of Railway Department; and

(c) whether any compensation is proposed to be paid to the families of the deceased children?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) On 21.3.90, near Dayabasti railway station, about 50 yards away from the railway track, 5 children, residents of nearby jhuggies, who were unauthorisedly digging the earth for taking it or domestic purposes died due to caving in of earth. At that time, a train was passing.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of cement plants in Punjab

5250. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up any cement plant in Punjab during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). Cement Corporation of India, an undertaking of the Government of India, have undertaken to set up a cement grinding plant of 5.00 lakh tonnes per annum capacity at Bhatinda in the Punjab State. But due to non-availability of environ-