

import of wheat, 24 offers were received, out of which one was from non-resident Indian. There was no offer from any Indian firm.

(c) The Government did not lay any such norms.

[*Translation*]

Train Accidents in Moradabad Division

913. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail accidents occurred in Moradabad division of Northern Railways during the last one year and total loss suffered as a result thereof;

(b) the causes of the said accidents; and

(c) the action being taken to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) There were three train accidents during 1991-92 on the Moradabad Division of Northern Railway. The cost of damage to railway property has been assessed at Rs. 0.79 lakhs.

(b) Two accidents took place due to failure of railway staff while the third one was due to negligence of road user.

(c) Some of the important steps taken to reduce accidents are:-

- (i) Induction of technical device to aid the human element;
- (ii) monitoring the performance of staff of critical safety categories such as drivers, guards, station masters, etc.
- (iii) intensive training of staff in operational categories;
- (iv) intensive and frequent inspections

of sensitive installations;

- (v) surprise checks against carriage of inflammable/explosive material in passenger trains and
- (vi) provision of whistle boards/speed breakers and road signs at the approaches of unmanned level crossings and improving visibility for road users and train drivers.

(*English*)

National Health Policy

914. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to make changes in the health policy of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to provide free medicines to the rural poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). The policies governing Health are constantly reviewed modified to try and met the most pressing needs of the population within the resources available. These reviews are done during the formulation of the State Health Plans as well as Central Plan and the meetings of the State Health Ministers keeping in mind the epidemiological and demographic changes.

(c) Health care services are the responsibility of State Government Health care services to the rural population are provided through net-work of sub-centres, primary health centres free of cost. However, the Central Government provides a grant of Rs.