

people in the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Central Government have not engaged the Group Insurance Corporation (GIC) to insure teak plantations at the State level.

(b) In view of the reply to part (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) Plantation of teak and other economically useful species is a continuing activity undertaken by the State Governments with the involvement of the local people.

Bharat Darshan Special Trains

4846. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start Bharat Darshan special trains from Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and New Delhi to various places on package tours; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Grants to Orissa for Development of Colleges

4847. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of University Grants Commission visited Orissa to consider the proposals of the State Government to sanction grants for the development of Govern-

ment colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the visit;

(c) the amount sanctioned and the grants released so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE): (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d). According to information furnished by UGC, a committee consisting of a member of UGC, two academics and UGC officials visited Bhubaneswar in December, 1991 to evaluate the 8th Plan development proposals of the eligible colleges in Orissa.

Out of 48 Government Colleges in the State 44 Colleges submitted their 8th Plan development proposals which were evaluated by the Committee. This includes 3 Government Colleges whose proposals were considered provisionally.

On the recommendation of the Committee the UGC approved an allocation of Rs. 363.50 lakhs for 41 Government Colleges out of which an amount of Rs. 68.59 lakhs have been sanctioned as the first instalment of grant for purchase of books/journals and equipment.

[*English*]

Accident of Goods Train

4848. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some wagons of a good train fell into the river between Manpur Nagariya and Suron station in Barielly-Kasgang section of North-Eastern railway

during August, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of loss of lives and property involved as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into the said accident;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) to (e) On 18.8.92 at 6.35 hours a goods train derailed at bridge No. 411 on Kasganj-Bareilly section between stations Sauron-Manpur Nagariya in which 19 of the 20 wagons that derailed fell down the bridge. There was no loss of life but the cost of damaged railway property was approximately Rs. 61 lacs. Departmental enquiry was conducted to go into the causes of the accident who have concluded that this accident was due to weak spring in one of the wagons.

(f) Following remedial steps have been taken:-

- (i) To check suspected weak spring by Camber measurement and to educate Carriage and wagon staff for the strict compliance.
- (ii) Rolling in examination has been tightened and super checks have been intensified.
- (iii) Intensive examination of goods trains, have been tightened.

Procurement of EMU Rakes

4849. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minis-

ter of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new EMU rakes procured by the Railways during 1991 and 1992;

(b) whether any old rakes were discarded by replacing new rakes;

(c) the present rake position in operation and due for over-hauling; and

(d) the details of the programme to receive new rakes during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) 9 rakes plus 66 coaches and 20 rakes plus 22 coaches were procured by the Railways during 1991 and 1992, respectively.

(b) 1 rake plus 82 coaches were discarded by replacing with new ones.

(c) There are 357 rakes out of which 314 rakes are in service during peak hours. 29 rakes are due for overhauling.

(d) 24 rakes plus 23 coaches are programmed to be manufactured and supplied to the Railways during 1992-93.

Steam Loco sheds

4850. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of steam locomotive sheds in the country and number of sheds closed during the last three years;

(b) the total number of employees and workers affected due to closure of these sheds;

(c) whether there is any proposal for absorption of those loco staff rendered sur-