

crores has been made for the scheme during 1995-96.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e) During 1994-95, a total of 517 Condensed Courses and 697 Vocational Training Courses were sanctioned.

During the current year and for the rest of the plan period, depending upon the response of NGOs, a larger number of Courses can be sanctioned.

SEATS IN ENGINEERING COLLEGE

7799. **Shri Vijay Naval Patil** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has decided to sanction more seats in Engineering Colleges financed by the Centre, State Governments and private agencies;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed by AICTE while giving sanction for more seats; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that the standard of Engineering Education is in conformity with that of developed countries while sanctioning more seats?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) Proposals to sanction additional seats in Engineering Colleges are considered by the All India Council for Technical Education in accordance with the criteria laid-down in its Regulations published in the Gazette of India on 23rd November, 1994. These Regulations have been framed under the AICTE Act which ensures proper maintenance of norms and standards in the Technical Education system.

ACCIDENT OF KERALA EXPRESS

7800 **Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kerala Express met with an accident on 29th Jan. 1995 between Kala-Hasti & Reni Gunta in Andhra Pradesh,

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted into the causes of the accident;

(c) if so, the findings thereof;

(d) the number of persons killed and injured therein; and

(e) the details of compensation given to the deceased Railway employees and passengers?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) Yes, Sir. On 29th January '95, at 5.25 hrs., 2625 Kerala Express dashed against a truck at unmanned level crossing No.32 near Rachagunneri station on Guntakal Division of

South Central Railway.

(b) and (c) A departmental inquiry was conducted, which found that the driver of the truck No.AP-04-T/1133 disregarded the Caution Board exhibited at unmanned level crossing crossed the level crossing in face of an approaching train. The truck driver was found responsible for the mishap.

(d) The train driver lost his life and three occupants of the truck sustained injuries.

(e) An application for the payment of compensation has been lodged by the next of the kin of the driver of the train before the Railway Claims Tribunal, Secunderabad.

[Translation]

STALLS

7801. **Shri Upendra Nath Verma** : Will The Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether stalls for sale of curd, butter, milk and milk products are not being allotted at the stations;

(b) whether even after permission being granted no such stalls have been allotted at Danapur, Patna and other Railway Stations in Bihar; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

GAUGE CONVERSION

7802. **Shri Mohan Lal Jhikram** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the time when the conversion of Metre Gauge lines into Broad Gauge lines from Gondiya to Jabalpur and from Mandla to Nainpur and between Sivani and Parasiya were started;

(b) the time by which the works are likely to be completed; and

(c) the criteria fixed for placing the converted lines in their order of preference?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) The conversion of Gondia-Jabalpur NG line to BG is proposed to be taken up after obtaining necessary approvals.

Conversion of Nainpur-Mandla and Seoni- Chindwara NG lines will be considered alongwith the remaining lines for conversion in the next phase of the Action Plan keeping

in view the traffic projections and the availability of resources. Work on Chindwara- Parasia section (28 kms.) is likely to be completed by March '96.

(c) The priority of lines taken up for conversion is based on the operational/strategic requirements to the Railways and the nation.

EXPORT BY FCI

7803. **Shri Pankaj Chowdhary :**
Shri Amar Pal Singh :
Shri Brijbhushan Sharan Singh :
Shri Satya Dee Singh :
Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu :
Shri S.M. Laljan Basha :
Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India propose to enter the international market through the export of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Roller Flour Mills Federation of India (RFMFI) has expressed its dissatisfaction over the entry of Food Corporation of India in the export field;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) and (b) In view of the comfortable stock position of foodgrains in the central pool, Government have authorised the FCI to export/sell for the purposes of export non-durum wheat up to 2.5 million tonnes (within the export ceiling of 2.5 million tonnes) fine and superfine-rice from public stocks upto 2.00 million tonnes during 1995-96 at export/sale prices as may be fixed by the High level Committee constituted for the purpose under the chairmanship of the Chairman, FCI. While no direct export of wheat by FCI has taken place, it has entered into an agreement with Nepal Food Corporation for supply of 30,000 metric tonnes of raw rice.

(c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Ministry of Commerce or Ministry of Food has not received any such representation so far.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

DELHI ZOO

7804. **Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :** Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Stagnant Water threat to Zoo inmates" appearing in The Pioneer dated April 21, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the stagnant water pools in animal

enclosures are posing grave threat to the animals and birds in Delhi Zoo;

(c) if so, the reasons for stagnant water pool in animal enclosures; and

(d) the steps taken and proposed to be taken by the Government to provide free flowing water to Zoo inmates?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Water in the moats around animal enclosures flows at a very low pace due to less water supply, and improper drainage outside the National Zoological Park. Although potable water is provided to animals and birds, the animals sometimes drink water from the moats. The matter was discussed in a interdepartmental meeting held recently and steps for corrective action have been initiated.

BACKWARD CLASS CELL IN BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY

7805. **Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had directed the Banaras Hindu University to establish a Backward Class Cell;

(b) if so, the background for giving such direction;

(c) whether the Cell has been established and started working; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) No. S

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

FOODGRAINS STOCK

7806. **Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar :**
Dr. Chinta Mo. an .
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than the annual requirement of foodgrains of the country is likely to be stored in the Godowns of Food Corporation of India during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the quantity thereof foodgrain-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have contemplated various measures to reduce the said additional quantity of foodgrains;

(d) if so, the quantum of foodgrains proposed to be