

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken for the improvement of the Mecheda Station; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, the second class waiting hall and drinking water supply etc., are adequate.

(b) Yes.

(c) The exact additional booking facilities required are being examined.

(d) Does not arise.

### Overbridge at Alwar

2904. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is correct that Railway Ministry has agreed to construct a Railway over-bridge within the Municipal limits of Alwar;

(b) whether administrative and financial sanction has been issued by Government for constructing the over-bridge; and

(c) if so, whether the work of constructing the Railway over-bridge is to be undertaken in the present financial year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). No.

(c) Does not arise.

### Special Trains run during February to May 1980 for movement of Foodgrains

2905. SHRI RASABEHARI BEHERA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of special trains run by the Indian Railways during the period from February to May, 1980 for the movement of foodgrains in the country; and

(b) the total volume of foodgrains which was moved by the Indian Railways to different States during this period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) During the period February to May, 1980, a total of 1859 specials on BG and 228 on MG were loaded with foodgrains on zonal Railways.

(b) Approximately 1,92,542 BG and 63,223 MG wagons were loaded with foodgrains during this period.

### Facilities at Stations on Trivandrum-Ernakulam Line

2906. SHRI A. A. RAHIM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the important Railway Stations on Trivandrum-Ernakulam B.G. line are having inadequate platforms to take the trains in; and

(b) the steps taken to construct extensive platforms and also to give more facilities at the stations like more of Waiting Halls, Retiring Rooms at important stations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MULLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). The main platforms of stations where important mail/express trains stop presently, on this section are of adequate length. The extension of other platforms is being taken up progressively as necessary. A number of works for the provision/augmentation of facilities such as platform shelter, sheds, toilets, remodelling/improvement of station buildings including booking/reservation counters, refreshment stalls, waiting halls, retiring room are already in various stages of progress at a number of stations. More such facilities would be provided in the future in consultation with the Railway Users Amenities Committee (with which public opinion is associated) taking into account the needs of various stations and availability of funds.