

last three years and their details are as per statement attached.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Payment in refund cases are made within the framework of rules depending upon the merits of each individual case. Decisions are always open to revision by higher authorities at their

discretion.

(e) and (f) Rules for the grant of refund are already framed which are revised from time to time. The rules regarding refund of passenger fares are being further simplified, and these are expected to be introduced in January, 1986.

Statement

Year	No. of cases received		No. of cases disposed of	
	Coaching (passenger & parcel)	Goods	Coaching (passenger & parcel)	Goods
1	2(a)	2(b)	3(a)	3(b)
1982	158651	208720	164076	211506
1983	152721	212364	154050	222999
1984	159247	221435	157852	234977

Note :—The No. of cases disposed is more than the receipt, because some cases belong to the earlier year, which could not disposed of in the same year, and got carried forward to the next year.

[English]

Nahor Wooden Sleepers for Railway Electrification work in place of cement concrete sleepers

4690. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railway Board is purchasing "Nahor Wooden Sleepers" for Railway Electrification work on Indian Railways through different agencies;

(b) total amount spent in purchasing the Nahor Wooden Sleepers so far;

(c) by whom these Sleepers are being tested and what is the test report for safety from accident; and

(d) reasons for not using cement concrete sleepers for trains running at 130 kilometre per hour ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Indian Railways are buying Nahor Wooden Sleepers for railway tracks, including those for electrified routes.

(b) Cost of Nahor Wooden Sleepers purchased during 1984-85 and 1985-86 was as under :

1984-85 : Rs. 13.38 crores.

1985-86 : Rs. 6.46 crores.

(Upto November 1985)

(c) Use of Nahor Wooden Sleepers was introduced after necessary testing and clearance by Forest Research Institute, Dehradun. Individual sleepers are inspected and passed by State Forest Department Officers.

(d) Concrete sleepers are being extensively used on all tracks, including tracks cleared for speed of 130 KMPH.