

(b) the level of at which the students are proposed to be covered for vocational studies; and

(c) the percentage of students being covered for vocational training and the percentage which would be covered by the Central Institute ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Cancer due to exposure of radioactive fall out from Soviet Chernobyl nuclear accident

499. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the Indian Express dated 11th September, 1986 stating that a very large number of people throughout the World could develop cancer due to exposure to the radioactive fall out from the Soviet Chernobyl nuclear accident; and

(b) if so, whether Government have made any assessment of such a health hazard in India and the details of the precautions, if any, to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information given by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre the radioactive fall out in India was negligible and no precautions were necessary in this regard.

[Translation]

Import of rails

500 SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :  
SHRI BALWANT SINGH  
RAMOOWALIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Railway has taken a decision to import one lakh tonnes of rails from Western countries;

(b) if so, whether it was not possible to meet the requirement of rails from indigenous sources;

(c) if so, the facts in this regard;

(d) the name of the countries from which the rails are likely to be imported and the value of the imports to be made from each country; and

(e) the details regarding progress of work of replacement of rail tracks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) One lakh tonnes of rails are being imported through invitation of global tenders.

(b) Yes.

(c) Against requirement of 4 lakh tonnes for the year 1986-87, Bhilai Steel Plant (the only source of supply) has supplied only 81,600 tonnes of rails in the first six months of the current financial year.

(d) The purchase is to be made through global tenders and award of tender is yet to be finalised. As such, at this stage, the name of the country from which import is likely to materialise is not known.

(e) During 1985-86, track renewal of 3578 kms. was completed as against the target of 3300 kms. During 1986-87 (upto September '86) track renewal of 1484 kms. has been undertaken as against the target of 3800 kms. during the year.

[English]

Selling of seats of unreserved compartments by an organised gang at Delhi/New Delhi stations

501. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :