

Mundra. The vessel experienced heavy weather due to Monsoon and was proceeding at slow speed. The vessel developed a heavy list on 8.7.1987 to starboard and capsized. 4 crew members reached ashore safely. 5 dead bodies were washed ashore along the coast. 14 crew members are missing.

(c) Director General Shipping has ordered an investigation under Section 360 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 into the causes of mishap.

(d) The investigation has not yet commenced and hence outcome is not available. The total amount of compensation to be given to the next of kin of 19 crew members who lost their lives will be around Rs.20.19. 182/-

Sambalpur Railway Division

737. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newly formed Sambalpur Division has started functioning;

(b) if so, since when;

(c) the jurisdiction carved out for the new division; and

(d) whether there is any representation regarding the jurisdiction and if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposed Sambalpur Division will comprise Jharsuguda-Bolangir, Bolangir-Titlagarh, Titlagarh-Rayagada and Titlagarh-Raipur Sections of South Eastern Railway and Sambalpur-Talcher new line under construction.

(d) A representation for inclusion of areas

from Bondamunda to Hemagir in the jurisdiction of Sambalpur Division was recently received. The proposal, however, has not been found feasible.

[Translation]

Introduction of Train Services from Gwalior to Calcutta, Kerala and Gujarat

738. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV:
SHRI MATILAL HANSDA

Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of up and down trains from Gwalior for Calcutta, Kerala and Gujarat;

(b) if there is no such train, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the time by which train services from Gwalior to Calcutta, Kerala and Gujarat are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) 2 pairs of trains connect Gwalior with Kerala and one through service coach with Calcutta.

(b) and (c). It is not feasible at present to introduce direct trains to the other destinations mentioned.

[English]

Distribution of Imported Tinplate Sheets

739. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that on account of limited availability of indigenous tinplates, every year Union Government is allowing import of tin-plate sheets to meet the growing needs of the container processing industry in the country;

(b) whether there is any policy laid down

for distribution of such imported tinplate sheets;

(c) if so, the methodology adopted in distributing such imported tinplate sheets; and

(d) whether it is allotted on adhoc basis to various industries?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR): (a) Import of tinplate takes place from year to year as domestic availabilities are not adequate

(b) Import of tinplate is allowed as per the provisions of the Import-Export policy of the Government

(c) Import of tinplate is canalised through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC), who refers all such cases to the Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel (DCI & S). The DCI & S clears import applications taking into account factors like domestic availability, past consumption and recommendations of the Sponsoring Authority. Direct import is permissible under Replenishment and Advance Licensing provisions of the Import-Export policy.

Import/Production of Interferon

740. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any R & D work has been initiated in production of Interferon through new genetic tools and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any Interferon has ever been imported into the country to fight any disease/ailments; and

(c) what is the present status of Interferon R & D in the World and India's place in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No Research and Development work has been initiated in the production of interferon in India.

(b) Interferon has not been imported into the country to fight any disease/ailment.

(c) In U.S.A. human interferon has been closed.

Ernakulam-Kayamkulam Railway line

741 PROF. P.J. KURIEN
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the total amount so far sanctioned for Ernakulam-Kayamkulam railway line;

(b) the total amount so far spent;

(c) when this line is expected to be completed; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Rs. 44.24 core.

(b) Rs. 31.91 crore upto June, 1987

(c) Its completion will depend on availability of resources in coming years.

(d) It is 100 Km. in length and now estimated to cost Rs. 73.50 crores.

Deterioration of D.T.C. services

742. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI
DR. V. VENKATESH:
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "The daily travails of people travelling by DTC buses"