

Central	—	35
Eastern	—	43
Northern	—	59
North Eastern	—	17
Northeast Frontier	—	36
Southern	—	30
South Central	—	28
South Eastern	—	42
Western	—	33

Majority of these accidents involved freight trains. Causes of these accidents have largely been due to failure of equipment, railway staff and failure of persons other than railway staff.

(b) The cost of damage to railway property has been estimated at Rs. 6.05 crores.

(c) In these accidents, 160 persons lost their lives and 425 sustained injuries. This includes deaths and injuries caused at level crossing gates.

(d) Compensation will be paid to the dependents of those killed and injured in train accidents by the Ad-hoc Claims Commissioner on Southern Railway and ex-officio Claims Commissioners on other Railways. However, ex-gratia payments have been made in all deserving cases.

[*Translation*]

**Child Labour in Glass Industry in Ferozabad, Uttar Pradesh**

635. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that minor children employed in glass industry in Ferozabad, Uttar Pradesh are suffering from various types of diseases ;

(b) if so, whether Government are taking any action against those factory owners who have endangered the future of such children ; and

(c) if so, the number of such factory owners against whom action has so far been taken and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

**Import of Rice From Thailand**

636. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :  
SHRI G. BHOOPATHY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have entered into an agreement with Thailand for import of rice, if so, the quantity proposed to be imported ;

(b) the time by which the first shipment of rice shall be reaching the country ;

(c) the reasons for import of rice in view of the fact that the country is self-sufficient in rice and other foodgrains ; and

(d) whether the rice being imported is of a superior quality ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir, the Government has contracted for import of 5 lakh tonnes of rice from Thailand.

(b) The first vessel carrying Thai rice is likely to arrive Indian ports by early August, 1988.

(c) Imports have been made to replenish the buffer stocks which underwent considerable drawdown due to drought and increased pressure on the public distribution system.

(d) By and large the rice being imported from Thailand is comparable to the quality of indigenous rice being distributed through PDS in the country.

[*Translation*]

**New Railway Station in Delhi**

637. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether New Delhi and Delhi Main Railway Stations are overcrowded resulting in inconvenience to the passengers ?

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to construct a new railway station in Delhi to reduce the congestion at both the stations ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) The work of augmentation of coaching facilities at Delhi Main Railway Station is an ongoing approved work. Approval has also been accorded for acquisition of land for directional terminals at Bijwasan, Holambi Kalan and Anand Vihar. There is also a proposal to augment the facilities at New Delhi Railway Station. Study for development of the terminals in Delhi area has been entrusted to the Japanese Team who are expected to submit their report by the end of the year.

[English]

#### Darjeeling Mail

638. SHRI AMARROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Darjeeling Mail is running late regularly ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps being taken for running of this train in time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, efforts to further improve the running of this pair of trains continue.

#### Import of Foodgrains

639. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is importing wheat or other foodgrains from the U.S.A, and other countries ;

(b) if so, the quantity contracted for import, sources of origin, and average price ; and

(c) whether the prices are higher than anticipated earlier, if so, the reason thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has finalized proposals for import of 2 million tonnes of wheat from U.S.A., 5 lakh tonnes of rice from Thailand and 2 lakh tonnes of rice from D.P.R. Korea. The average estimated FOB cost per tonne comes to about US \$121 in case of US wheat and US \$244 in case of Thai rice. In case of Korean rice, the C & F FO cost is US \$269 per tonne.

(c) No, Sir.

#### I.L.O. Statistics on Child Labour

640. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to I.L.O. statistics, one third of Asia's 380 million child workers are in India ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to reduce the number ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

#### Modification of Trivandrum Railway Station

641. SHRI A. CHARLES : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the progress made in execution of the plan for developing Trivandrum as a model railway station ; and

(b) the reasons for delay in completion of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Extension of platform shelter on platform Nos 2 & 3 by 108 metres and construction of cement concrete apron have been sanctioned and the works are in progress.