

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued in this regard;

(c) whether the prices of foodgrains in the open market have gone up due to hoarding of foodgrains by traders; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be against the erring traders ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments were advised to impose stock limits wherever and to the extent necessary.

(c) No such reports have been received by the Central Government.

(d) The State Governments are already empowered to take action against erring traders.

**Restoration of cancelled trains on  
Bhavnagar and Rajkot divisions  
(Western Railway)**

1709. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN  
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :  
SHRI RANJIT SINGH  
GAEKWAD :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some trains on Bhavnagar and Rajkot Divisions of the Western Railway were cancelled during 1987 and between 1 January to 30 June, 1988;

(b) if so, the details and reasons thereof;

(c) the number of trains restored so far; and

(d) the steps contemplated to avoid cancellation of trains on this Division ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

	Bhavnagar Division			Rajkot Division (in pairs)		
	BG	MG	NG	BG	MG	NG
1987	—	14	3	1	15	2
Jan. '88 to June '88	—	2	—	1	—	—

These trains were cancelled due to water scarcity on account of successive droughts, poor patronisation and other operational reasons.

(c) 11 Pairs of MG trains on Bhavnagar, 2 BG and 9 MG pairs of trains on Rajkot Division have been restored so far.

(d) Cancellation of trains is contemplated only when absolutely inescapable from the operational point of view.

**Food quota for Maharashtra**

1710. SHRI D. B. PATIL :  
SHRIMATI USHA  
CHOUDHARY :

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

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra had requested Union Government in March, 1988, to increase monthly quota of rice wheat and edible oil for distribution through Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the quantum of increase in the quota asked for;

(c) whether monthly quota of rice, wheat and edible oil has since been increased, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the quota of rice, wheat and edible oil allotted and the quota lifted by Government of Maharashtra during the period January, 1988 to June, 1988 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government of Maharashtra had requested to increase their