

for supply of Chawki worms to farmers to improve quality and productivity of cocoons. As a result of this, the productivity has increased by 3-4 kg of cocoons per 100 dfls, thereby ensuring a better price to the farmers.

In addition to this, Central Silk Board has established a net work of 63 research Extension Centres in the country to educate farmers in improved technologies of silk-worm rearing. Pamphlets on improved techniques of mulberry plantation and silkworm rearing have been printed in 8 languages and distributed to the farmers.

Demurrage Paid By Food Corporation of India

51. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDERJAIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the account of demurrage paid to the Railways by the Food Corporation of India during the last three years, year-wise, and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken to reduce it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) Demurrage charges paid to the Railway during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Lakh Rs.
1985-86	809.38
1986-87	823.82
1987-88	789.65 (Provisional)

Low productivity of labour combined with poor infrastructural facilities is the main cause for accrual of demurrage.

(b) The following steps have been taken to reduce accrual of demurrage:-

(i) Handling arrangements at rail-

heads have been strengthened.

(ii) Action is taken against handling and transport contractors or departmental labour whoever is found responsible for delays.

(iii) The railways are persuaded to waive demurrage charges in cases where unloading delay is beyond the control of FCI or due to lack of adequate infrastructural facilities.

[Translation]

Child Labour

52. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one third of total number of child labour in the world are in India;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that child labour are also working in some of the hazardous industries; and

(d) if so, the names of such industries and the number of child labour working there?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) No, Sir. The statistics published by ILO do not lead to such a conclusion.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Children below 14 years of age are working in some occupations and processes like carpet weaving, manufacture of matches and fireworks etc., in which their employment is prohibited under the law. However, no accurate statistics are available about the number of children engaged in hazardous occupations.

Cure for Encephalitis

53. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY