

be opened and the funds to be allocated for the same has not yet been finalised.

[English]

Compensation to Travelling Passengers

264. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways pay compensation to passengers who die or receive grievous injury while travelling due to jolt received by them during the shunting of the train etc. ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Government propose to undertake liability to compensate a passenger in such cases as is provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act and Motor Vehicles Act ; and

(d) whether Government propose to redefine the term 'accident' making it wider so as to undertake liability to compensate a passenger who suffers harm resulting from the working of a Railway ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Section 82-A of the Indian Railways Act, 1890 specifies the liability of Railway Administration in respect of accident to train carrying passengers. Such liability to pay compensation for death, injury and loss of property of passengers is confined to an accident being either a collision between trains or derailment or other accident to a train or any part of a train carrying passengers. This liability is absolute without proof of any wrongful act, neglect or default on the part of the Railway Administration for such accident. There is, of course, no bar to enforce a claim for compensation in other cases where a wrongful act, neglect or default on the part of the Railway Administration is proved under the Law of the Land.

(c) and (d). No Sir.

Help to Widows without Means of Livelihood

265. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a large-number of women get widowed even while their children are very young and find themselves without means of livelihood ;

(b) whether her Ministry has evolved schemes to help such widows and if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to help such unfortunate and helpless women ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are no separate schemes for widows as such. However, there are certain schemes under which assistance is given for destitute women for their economic rehabilitation. Widows are also covered under these schemes. Such schemes being implemented by the Ministry are mentioned below :

(i) Under the Scheme of Assistance for setting up Women's Training Centres, destitute women are given training with the objective of rehabilitating them economically by imparting them training in skills. Assistance is also given for the dependent children of such widows.

(ii) Under the Scheme of Assistance to projects sponsored by public undertakings, corporations and autonomous organisations, assistance is given for training of women with the express purpose of providing them sustained employment. In identifying beneficiaries for this programme, widows, as a category are given preference.

(iii) Under Socio-Economic Programme of the Central Social Welfare Board, financial assistance is given for training-cum-production centres for women.

(c) The question does not arise.

Directory of Recognised Voluntary Organisations Wishing to Donate for Social Welfare

266. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government intend to bring out a directory of voluntary organisations recognised by her Ministry to help intending donors to channelise their funds for social welfare through these organisations ;

(b) if not, whether any such list of voluntary organisations exists with the Ministry ; and

(c) if not, what other steps will be taken to keep a record of voluntary organisations in social welfare work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Ministry has a record of the voluntary organisations which are receiving grants-in-aid from this Ministry. The Ministry also maintains a list of Indian voluntary organisations, which are recognised under bilateral agreements with some countries for the purpose of receiving donations of supplies from foreign organisations in these countries. The Central Social Welfare Board has earlier brought out directories of voluntary organisations for social welfare work in different States.

(c) Does not arise.

Tamluk-Digha B.G. Railway Line Project

267. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be

pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Tamluk-Digha broad gauge railway line project has been cleared by the Planning Commission and the Railway Board ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when this project would be completed ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) and (c). Do not arise. The Planning Commission have not agreed to the construction of this line.

Railway accidents during 1984 and 1985

268. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : SHRI B.V. DESAI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of train derailments and accidents which took place during 1984 and in 1985 till to date ;

(b) details of the causes thereof and the steps taken to check these accidents ;

(c) whether the steps include installation of electronic devices to avert collisions ; and

(d) whether the incidence of mechanical failures has also been going up in the railways in recent days ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Break-up of train accidents on Indian Railways during 1984 and 1985, is as under :