

(ix) Patching of panel-cuts of wagons in sick-lines, yards and goods sheds to reduce the circulation of defective wagons;

(x) Proper supervision and careful tallying of packages during loading and unloading operations;

(xi) Intensified supervision at break-of-gauge transshipment points and repacking points;

(xii) Prompt fixation of staff responsibility; and

(xiii) Special precautions during monsoon season to prevent damage by wet.

Summary Trial of Cases of Atrocities on Harijans

3779. SHRI R. L. KUREEL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to arrange for summary trials and mobile courts for dealing with the cases of atrocities on Harijans/Adivasis;

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (c). Atrocities on Harijans/Adivasis are taken to mean grave offences against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes such as murder, rape, grievous hurt, serious mischief or arson in respect of their properties and other offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code, where the motive for the offence relates to the caste of the victim. The procedure for trial of offences where members of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes are victims is already laid down in the relevant laws. Mobile Courts are generally arranged to deal with cases of petty nature which can be tried summarily and on the spot.

Loss to Railways due to Cyclone in Tamil Nadu

3780. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways suffered a heavy loss due to the cyclone in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the total loss suffered;

(c) whether the rail services in the state have been greatly affected;

(d) if so, to what extent and the steps being taken to restore the rail services; and

(e) whether the Tamil Nadu people have to bear a great loss due to this broken rail service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) Approximately rupees three crores.

(c) Yes.

(d) Statement showing sections where train services were affected is attached.

Immediately after the cyclone, restoration work was commenced in full swing round the clock as a result of which the affected sections were re-opened to traffic expeditiously well ahead of schedule. At present traffic is suspended only between Karur and Virarakkiyam Stations on Tiruchchi-rappali-Erode section due to the heavy damage caused to Amravati Bridge. Restoration work on the bridge is in progress even though it is being hampered due to further rains, floods and heavy current in the river.

(e) Train services were restored within the shortest possible time considering the magnitude of damage, thereby minimising the inconvenience caused to the travelling traffic.