

(a) whether it is a fact that still a large portion of railway components is imported from abroad;

(b) if so, the total amount of such imports made during the last three years and from which countries;

(c) the steps taken for substituting the imports by indigenous supplies;

(d) whether large number of domestic small scale industrial units have offered their services for substituting and manufacturing such imported items; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) No.

(b) The total value of imports of railway components made during 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 was Rs. 70.70, 64.37 and 50.97 crores respectively. The total value of purchases made during these years was Rs. 590.91, 777.18 and 764.06 crores respectively. The percentage of the total value of imports to the total value of purchases made during these years works out to 11.97, 8.28 and 6.67 respectively. The countries from where the imports were made are U.S.A., Japan, Italy, West Germany, France, U.K., Switzerland, Finland, Austria, Canada, Malasiya, Sweden, Belgium and East European countries.

(c) Development Cells have been set up in all the Production Units, Zonal Railways and the Ministry of Railways to expedite the indigenous development of imported components, which keep close liaison with all the indigenous manufacturers. In addition, the progress of indigenisation is reviewed at Railway Board's level by arranging periodical meetings. Exhibitions of items being imported are also organised from time to time to attract the attention of indigenous manufacturers. Constant liaison is also being maintained with Directorate General of Technical Development and other agencies like Small Scale

Industries to accelerate the pace of indigenous development.

(d) Yes.

(e) All possible help by way of extending technical guidance and other relaxation are given to these units.

Railway accidents during last five years

1027. SHRI PADMACHARAN SAMANTSINHERA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several train accidents have taken place during the recent years;

(b) if so, the total number of accidents during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) what is the estimated cost of Government property lost every year;

(d) whether any railway workers are involved in these accidents; and

(e) if so, facts thereof and what action has been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c). The number of train accidents in the categories of collisions, derailments, level crossing accidents and fires in trains which occurred on the Indian Government Railways since 1973-74 and the cost of damage to railway property involved is:—

Year	No. of accidents	Cost of damage to railway property (in Rs.)
1973-74	782	2,49,40,866
1974-75	925	2,50,46,671
1975-76	964	2,98,74,675
1976-77	780	2,74,73,862
1977-78 (upto January)	743	3,30,17,240

(d) and (e). Out of 4194 train accidents which occurred from 1-4-1973 to 31-1-1978, 2343 accidents were due to failure of railway staff. 3152 staff have so far been punished as under:—

Particulars of punishments awarded	Number of Railway staff punished
(i) Dismissal/Removal from service	166
(ii) Compulsory retirement	25
(iii) With-holding of gratuity	9
(iv) With-holding of promotions	7
(v) Reversion to lower grade or in the same grade	546
(vi) With-holding of increments for varying periods	1,918
(vii) Stoppage of passes/P.T.Os.	188
(viii) Censured/Warned	293

Representation from People of Orissa for Railway Amenities

1028. SHRI PADMACHARAN SOM-ANTASINHERA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1817 on 29th November 1977 regarding representation from people of Orissa and state:

(a) whether the representations regarding 21 demands are under detailed examination; and

(b) out of these demands on which demands work has begun and when the work on the other demands will begin and what amounts has been/will be provided for these?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). A Statement is attached.

3724 L.S.—5

Statement

The position in respect of various demands made in the representations are as given below:—

1. Jakhapura-Banspani rail Link.

The Project has been approved and the construction work is under progress. Provision of Rupees One Crore has been made in the Budget for 1978-79.

2. Conversion of Rupsa-Bangriposi Narrow Gauge Section to Broad Gauge and its extension.

Consultations are being held with the State Government to examine the Scheme.

3. Establishment of a Coach repairing shop at Mancheswar near Bhubaneswar.

The work is likely to be taken up during 1978-79, Provision of Rs. 43 lacs has been made in the Budget.

4. Introduction of centralised traffic control between Nergundi and Barang Section of Howrah-Madras main lines

This will be considered when the traffic level goes up considerably.

5. Survey of new Railway lines

The Survey of the Talcher-Sambalpur rail line Project has been included in the Railway Budget for the current financial year. Provision of Rs. 6 lacs has been made in 1978-79.

The Koraput to Salur/Parvatipuram Railway line Project will be examined by a Survey Team already set up for the purpose and provision of Rs. 7 lacs has been made in 1978-79. There is no proposal for Rayagada-Gunupur-Berhampur link.

6. Improvement of Naupada-Parlak-hemundi-Gunupur Narrow Gauge line—its conversion to Broad Gauge