

Powerful Diesel Locomotives for carrying more Bogies

1515. SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got any plans to get more powerful Diesel Locomotives so that one engine may carry 21 bogies instead of attaching two engines and if so, when, and

(b) will two headed trains not affect the Railway track?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) The Motive Power Committee appointed to review the long-term requirement of Diesel and Electric Locomotives for the Indian Railways has recommended the development of higher Horse Power Diesel Locomotives. The report of the Committee is under consideration to examine whether such locomotives can be manufactured indigenously.

(b) No.

Availability of Wagons at Ashok Nagar (M.P.)

1517. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is not a fact that since November, 1978 no wagons were made available at Ashok Nagar (Madhya Pradesh) Railway Station resulting in piling up of huge stocks of goods creating problems for its storage;

(b) if so, facts thereof;

(c) whether as a result of such situation the Ashok Nagar Merchants Association resorted to closure of Mandi causing considerable difficulties for people of the area; and

(d) if so, remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken to make available wagons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) No. During November, 17, December, 78, January, 79 and February, 79 (upto 22-2-79), 76, 85, 78 and 64 wagons respectively were supplied at this station.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Railways are not aware of this.

(d) Wagons are being supplied regularly in turn of priority and registration. As on 21-2-79 only one demand, placed on 17-2-79 was pending.

M.P. Stones for Cement Concrete

1518. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that Shivpuri-Guna-Gwalior region of Madhya Pradesh has a huge stock of stones which can be used for construction work in place of RCC (cement concrete) and can save cement which is already in short production;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry is also aware that transportation is being hampered in the absence of railway lines;

(c) if so, whether keeping this in view Government will consider to construct the lines during the 1979-80; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). Till 1975 a narrow gauge line between Gwalior and Shivpuri was in existence. Movement by rail of stones from this area was insignificant. In