

result, only piecemeal clearance is now taking place. On the North Eastern Railway the bulk of the outstanding demands as on 15-2-1981 (7660 out of 7751) were for destinations on the Northeast Frontier Railway loading to which has been affected due to disturbed situation in Assam. However, instructions have been issued to load one rake of potato daily on the Metre gauge for destinations on N. F. Railway till all the indents are cleared.

The Railways anticipate no difficulty in the clearance of potatoes from U.P. provided the despatches are planned to all the directions and are not concentrated towards one direction only and that it is also ensured that loading is done in block rakes as far as possible.

**Providing a stoppage for superfast trains at Bandel**

2250. PROF. RUPCHAND PAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to arrange stoppage at Bandel of superfast trains running between Delhi and Howrah; and

(b) whether Government have any proposal to introduce reservation and booking counters for long distance trains at Bandel in Eastern Railway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No.

(b) Adequate arrangements for reservation and booking of passengers are available.

**Proposal or an Expert Committee on The Working of DTC**

2251. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to constitute

an expert committee to go into the working of D.T.C. and identify the causes of loss and suggest steps to contain and curtail the losses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shifting of Bikaner Railway Station**

2252. SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to shift Bikaner Railway Station to solve the problem of rail tracks;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Shifting of Railway station is not considered justified.

**Cancer to wives due to cigarette smoke of husbands**

2253. SHRI N. E. HORO: SHRI K. MALLANNA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 18th January, 1981 that a major study says 'wives who do not smoke but are exposed to their husband's cigarette smoke develop cancer at a much higher rate than non-smoking wives of non-smoking husbands; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to warn the persons regarding grave affects of smoking in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Yes.

(b) Biological studies have established the carcinogenicity of cigarette smoke and tar in particular has been proved to be responsible for carcinogenic effects. It has been observed that the use of filters in cigarettes minimises the harmful effects of cigarette smoke. The subject of cigarette filter has been taken up by the Tobacco and Tobacco Products Sectional Committee of the Indian Standard Institution for formulation of an Indian Standard at the instance of the Directorate General of Technical Development.

Under the Cigarette (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1975 the manufacturers or persons dealing in cigarettes are required to display prominently the statutory warning viz., 'Cigarette smoking is injurious to Health' on all cartons or packets of cigarette which are put up for sale. The warning is also required to be displayed prominently on all advertisements whether it is in newspapers, publications or on hoardings or elsewhere.

Health education measures to restrict smoking have also been undertaken, e.g.,

(i) inclusion of a chapter on the health hazards of smoking for students of class IX, X under the Central Board of Education;

(ii) mass health education/publicity campaigns on the hazards of smoking through publications and mass media viz., radio, films, TV etc.

#### Growth Rate of Population During the last Three Censuses

2254. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: the percentage of the rate of growth of the Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, Backward Castes, Religious Minorities and the rest of the population in the country during the last three censuses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): The growth rates for the population based on 1951, 1961 and 1971 censuses and obtained from the Registrar General, India, in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given in the Statement at Annexure-I and of major religious minorities and the rest of the population are given at Annexure-II. For Backward Classes the information is not available.