

(b) Railways are now lifting coal and Food Grains made available for loading at the rail heads and supply of wagons will be further stepped up as and when required.

प्रारम्भिक शिक्षा पर व्यय

7926. श्री मूल चन्द्र झाभा : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अनिवार्य प्रारम्भिक शिक्षा पर होने वाले व्यय में निरंतर कटौती की जा रही है और यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ख) इसके परिणामस्वरूप देश में किन्तने प्रतिशत बच्चे अनपढ़ हैं ?

शिक्षा और संस्कृति तथा समाज कल्याण मंत्रालयों में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती शैला कौल) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Small Diesel Engines

7927. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) number of small but modest diesel engines that are used in metropolitan areas for shunting purposes, to private sidings/goods sheds etc;

(b) whether most of them can be spared by adopting Home Delivery System from a central area of each Metro Town; and these diesel engines replace the steam engines which haul slow-moving all-stations-shopping passenger trains; and

(c) if so, how much of savings can thus be achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) A total of 62 diesel locomotives (upto 700 HP) are used in the four Metropolitan cities of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras for shunting of private sidings and in goods sheds.

(b) and (c). Even if home delivery is introduced, there will be no reduction in diesel engines used for shunting in goods sheds. Home delivery cannot be 100 per cent in any metropolitan city, due to which engines used for doing shunting to private sidings may not get reduced. Hence the question of any saving in locomotives does not arise.

Vocational Oriented Education at High school level

7928. SHRIMATI VIDYA CHENUPATI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state whether any vocational-oriented schemes will be separately introduced in the high schools for the benefit of girls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: In selecting the vocational courses to be introduced in the 2 Stage, special care is taken to include courses which will benefit girls.

Mecheda Railway Station

7929. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to