

under:—

| Railway             | Rail Fractures |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Central             | 94             |
| Eastern             | 99             |
| Northern            | 80             |
| North Eastern       | 28             |
| North East Frontier | 03             |
| Southern            | 60             |
| South Central       | 20             |
| South Eastern       | 944            |
| Western             | 134            |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>1462</b>    |

Railways make all efforts to set right the rail fracture in minimum possible time and remedial action in all cases have been taken. The expenditure incurred on a rail fracture is governed primarily by the kind of fracture, which occurs and varies widely depending upon the site conditions and the kind of repairs required.

[*Translation*]

#### Star Channels in Regional Languages

\*227. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accorded permission to Star TV to start four channels in regional languages;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reasons for not starting regional language channels by Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Doordarshan is already operating Fifteen Regional Service channels originating from respective major Kendras which can be received throughout the country using appropriate Dish Antenna system.

[*English*]

#### Standing Labour Committee and Committee on Equal Remuneration Act, 1976

\*228. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL:  
SHRI A.C. JOS:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the issues discussed at 35th session of Standing Labour Committee;

(b) the decision taken at said session;

(c) whether the Committee on Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 has not met for more than five years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to generate industrial climate conducive to encourage production and productivity?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (e) The Standing Labour Committee is a tripartite committee of the Ministry of Labour which meets from time to time to discuss issues of concern to industry and labour. The 35th session of the Standing Labour Committee was held at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 6-2-99. The Committee reviewed the progress of implementation of various points raised in previous meetings and the observance of the ethos and culture of tripartism both at the Central and State levels. Tripartite consultation is an important and integral component of labour policy and is a time tested method for building mutual confidence and generating industrial climate conducive to increasing production and productivity. All important advisory bodies in the labour field at the national