

Train Accidents at Faridabad Railway Station

1426. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether frequent accidents take place at New Town Faridabad Railway Station;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether a large part of Railway station land has been encroached by unauthorised persons;
- (d) if so, the remedial steps is being taken in this regard;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that passengers coming from Bata Chowk side/ 1 No. 2 No. etc. can not reach the platform without crossing the railway track which is said to be the busiest track in the country causing innumerable accidents every day; and
- (f) the remedial steps is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Only two train accidents during 1997-98 have taken place at Faridabad New Town Railway Station which included one derailment and one collision. While the derailment was caused on account of improper setting of points, the collision was caused due to the driver of the train ignoring the signal.

(c) Yes, Sir. A small portion of New Town Faridabad Railway Station has been encroached.

(d) Efforts are being made to remove the encroachments with the help of RPF/GRP and State Government.

(e) There is no authorised entry to the station from the Bata Chowk side which is on west of the station. The station building and circulating area are on the east side where an FOB exists connecting the three platforms. Passengers living on the Bata Chowk side can cross over to east side through an existing level crossing and then enter the station through regular entry. Some people on Bata Chowk side, however, directly approach platforms by trespassing the tracks.

(f) For the convenience of public, a road over bridge in lieu of the existing level crossing is already included in the Works Programme, 1997-98 vide item No. P.B.1997-98.

Development of Slum in Guwahati

1427. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any financial assistance has been provided by the Union Government for the development of slum areas of Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any proposal has been submitted by the State Government of Assam for the development of slum and construction of drains in the city of Guwahati; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Since 1996-97 the Government of India is providing Additional Central Assistance to States/UTs having urban population for slum development. Under this scheme, Rs. 222 lakh and Rs. 207 lakh has been released to the Government of Assam during 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively. Under this programme no city specific grants are released nor are city specific schemes approved by the Government of India.

(c) and (d) The Deptt. of Economic Affairs, Govt. of India forwarded the project profile viz. Guwahati Metropolitan Area Storm Drainage Improvement Programme received from Govt. of Assam to this Ministry for comments/views on proposal. This Ministry examined the Detailed Project Report and communicated its technical observation to the Town and Country Planning Deptt. Govt. of Assam requesting them to revise and resubmit the project. The Ministry also requested Deptt. of Economic Affairs to pose this project for OECF assistance under 1998-99 package. However, it is informed by Deptt. of Economic Affairs that this proposal has not been found suitable by OECF.

New Terminous Building at Bagdogra

1428. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the construction work of New Terminous Building at Bagdogra Airport is held up due to Defence objections;
- (b) if so, the details of the main objections raised; and
- (c) the steps that have been taken by the Government to remove them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.