

[English]

Allotment of Steel Quota

4065. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received request from the Government of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan for increasing allotment of steel quota for the use of people of the above States;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the quantum of steel quota allotted to the above States during the last two years; and

(d) whether this quota is exclusively for the use of the Government Departments or for the public in general?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) As per the extant policy, distribution of steel is decontrolled. However, the requirements of Defence, Railways, Small Scale Industries, Exporters of Engineering Goods and the North Eastern Region are met on priority. The Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel (DCI&S) oversees implementation of this arrangement. DCI&S has not received any request from Madhya Pradesh Laghu Udyog Nigam Limited, Government of Madhya Pradesh for increasing their allocation for the current year. But request from the Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation Limited, Government of Rajasthan has been received for additional allocation of 4,000 M.T. of steel materials for the current year. Request of the Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation Limited for additional allocation of 4,000 M.T. has been met in full.

(c) The total allocation including additional allocation for the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given below :

Name of the Corporation	Allocation	
	1995-96	1996-97
(i) Madhya Pradesh Laghu Udyog Nigam Limited, Government of Madhya Pradesh.	13,486 M.T.	8,995 M.T.
(ii) The Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation Limited, Government of Rajasthan.	11,000 M.T.	11,370 M.T.

(d) DCI&S makes allocation of steel materials to the Small Scale Industries Corporations of the State Governments for catering to the needs of small scale industries in their States. However, 10% of the allocation is reserved for supply to Government Departments

Procurement of Wagons

4066. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Railways had planned to procure 30,000 wagons during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that wagon industry has failed to supply the required number of wagons so far;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the requirement of wagons during 1997-98, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. This included the quantity of about 5000 FWs to be procured under Own Your Wagon Scheme.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Main reasons reported are :-

(i) Shortage of couplers and casnub bogies to be arranged by them.

(ii) Internal problems in some of public sector units.

(iii) Closure of M/s. H.G.I./New Delhi w.e.f. 30.11.96 as per Hon'ble Supreme Court orders for shifting outside Delhi.

(iv) Production for 2 months at M/s. Cimmco Birla Ltd. was affected by floods.

(e) Projected requirement of wagons for 97-98 for Indian Railway as a whole is 26,000 in terms of four wheeler units as included in Budget document. Zone-wise requirement are not estimated.

Accidents in Industrial Establishments

4067. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of accidents occurred in the Industrial establishments of Gujarat during each of the last three years, till date;

(b) whether the Union Government have issued or propose to issue instructions to the Industrial establishment of the State to provide adequate safety arrangements and to pay adequate compensation to the labourers injured during the accidents and to prevent the recurrence of such accidents;

(c) if so, the number of Industrial establishment which have adopted the safety measures; and

(d) if so, the result achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) According to information received from the State Government of Gujarat, the number of accidents which took place in the State during the last three years is as under :-

	Fatal	Non-fatal	Total
1993-94	197	16167	16364
1994-95	202	15489	15691
1995-96	176	16117	16293

(b) to (d) Safety measures required to be taken to check occurrence of accidents have been laid down in the Factories Act, 1948 and the Rules framed thereunder. All industrial establishments are required to follow the same. In addition, the Governments of Gujarat have amended the Gujarat Factories Rules, 1963 in the year 1995. These rules provide all the adequate safety measures for prevention of accidents and health and safety of workers. Training programmes and National Safety Day are arranged for industrial workers to create safety awareness. All the fatal accidents are inquired by the Senior Officers of the Directorate of Factories of the State Government of Gujarat and adequate safety measures are suggested for prevention of such accidents. Mock drills and on-site emergency plan, rehearsals etc. are arranged to meet any emergency. The compensation to the labourers injured during the accidents is paid as per the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.

[Translation]

On-going Construction Work of Over Bridge

4068. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the on-going construction work of overbridge on Hardoi-Sitapur road in Hardoi city has been abandoned for a long time;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in construction of said overbridge;

(c) the estimated cost of the project and expenditure incurred thereon so far; and

(d) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Railway's portion of work has been substantially completed, State Government is yet to execute work on approaches.

(c) Total Estimated Cost Rs. 4.13 crore Railway's share Rs. 1.92 crore and State Governments share Rs. 2.21 crore Expenditure incurred by Railway so far Rs. 1.09 crore.

(d) Depends upon completion of work on approaches by State Government.

[English]

Telephone Services in Allahabad

4069. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in Allahabad district which have been provided with telephone services;

(b) whether a large number of these rural telephones are not in working order;

(c) if so, the number of complaints received in 1996; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the working of telephones particularly in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The total number of villages in Allahabad district with telephone facilities is 877.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) 195.

(d) The steps being taken to improve services in rural areas are as follows :—

- (1) Reliable media is being provided to replace overhead media for rendering STD service.
- (2) Annual Maintenance Contract has been signed with manufacturers for providing proper maintenance of MARR systems.
- (3) One Sub-Divisional Engineer is being posted in every Tehsil Head-quarters.
- (4) Routine testing is being done regularly under the direct control of Divisional Engineer (Rural).
- (5) Higher capacity batteries are being provided in the villages of Allahabad district as the systems are affected by heavy power cuts, around 12 hours daily.

[Translation]

Decrease in Facilities

4070. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether facilities for the common passengers are decreasing despite introducing fast and long distance trains;

(b) if so, whether there are a few general coaches attached to fast and superfast trains and there is shortage of reserved coaches and absence of medical and catering facilities in a number of trains all add to the sufferings of common passengers;