

Encroachment on Railway Land

2103. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is large scale encroachment of hutment dwellers on the Railway land especially near the tracks;

(b) if so, the details of this encroachment. Zone-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government so far to remove the encroachments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Zone-wise encroachment as on 1.4.96 is given below :

Railway	Number of Encroachments
C R	26974
E R	12715
N R	34289
NER	10867
NFR	33645
S R	3018
SCR	9057
SER	19301
W R	14141
Total	164007

Out of these, 30,601 are along the track in safety zone, i.e. within 15m (50 feet) from the centre of nearest track.

(c) Removal of encroachments from Railway land is undertaken as per the provisions of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 regularly. So far, 35,963 cases have been filed under this Act.

Auto-rickshaw Drivers

2104. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Auto Rickshaw drivers need to be disciplined, says H.C. Judge" appearing in the 'Times of India', dated July 15, 1996, and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bhartiya Tipahiya Chalak Sangh has filed a writ petition in the Delhi High Court against the pre-paid taxi/TSRs scheme introduced by the Delhi Traffic

Police. According to the news item, the Hon'ble Judge did not grant any interim stay in favour of the petitioners while observing that the autorickshaw drivers needed to be disciplined. The case has been fixed for hearing on 26-09-1996.

Crisis in FACT

2105. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL :

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fertilizer and Chemicals Travancore Limited (Alwaye) is facing any crisis due to the import of Caprolactam;

(b) the latest position regarding the quantum of domestic production of Caprolactam; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to reduce the customs duty on Ammonia imported for use in the production of Caprolactam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). There are only two indigenous manufacturers of Caprolactam, viz., Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) and Gujarat State Fertilizer Company Limited (GSFC). The production of caprolactam during 1995-96 and the projections for 1996-97 are as under :

	Installed Capacity	Production 1995-96	1996-97	
			(April-June '96) Actual	(Projected)
FACT	50.0	47.1	5.3	41.0
GSFC	70.0	65.7	19.4	70.0
TOTAL	120.0	112.8	24.7	111.0

(000 MT)

The reduction of Customs duty from 45 to 30% as proposed in the Budget for 1996-97, is likely to create a stiffer competition from imports for the indigenous caprolactam industry.

(c) There is no such proposal to reduce the customs duty on ammonia for use in caprolactam.

Sal Wood Forest

2106. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total area of Sal Wood forest in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether area of Sal Wood is gradually dwindling due to felling of trees;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have taken any special measures to take up plantation of Sal Wood plantation in the new areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) According to the State of Forest Report, 1993, the total forest cover of the country as per 1993 assessment is 6,40,107 sq. km. However, the specie-wise assessment of the forest area is not undertaken by the Forest Survey of India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Diesel Loco Shed

2107. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railway Board is contemplating on the scheme of constructing Diesel Loco Shed in Barauni Garhara; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Train Services in Gujarat

2108. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether rail facilities are lacking in Gujarat especially in its tribal areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government propose to reintroduce Ankleshwar-Rajipla, Kaishamba-Umarpada, Chota-Udaipur-Baroda train services in these areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed for improving train services in the tribal areas of the State during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. The rail kms in Gujarat per lakh of population is 12.89 as compared to all India average of 7.41 kms.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Improvements/introduction of train services including in tribal areas is a continuous process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility and resources availability. Additional train services proposed in Gujarat are as follows :

After Gauge Conversion of the Delhi-Ahmedabad route, BG services will be provided on Ahmedabad-Jaipur-Delhi and Ahmedabad-Jodhpur-Bikaner sections. Other facilities include (i) Anand-Godhra MEMU service, (ii) Ahmedabad-Mehasana-Abu Road DMU/Push Pull service, (iii) Mehasana-Taranga Hill Rail bus service (iv) Increase in frequency of 6045/6046 Madras-Ahmedabad Navjeevan Express from six days a week to daily and 8403/8404 Puri-Ahmedabad from weekly to tri-weekly

Electrification of Bhagalpur-Kiul Rail Line

2109. SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme for electrification of Bhagalpur-Kiul Rail line is under consideration of the Government.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the electrification work is likely to be completed?

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

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Fish Farmers Development Agencies

2110. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether fish farmers development agencies in Assam are not working properly particularly in the Southern Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether about thirty five thousands families of fishermen in Southern Assam are facing acute problem of earning because of gradual dwindling of the catches; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to improve upon the situation?