

*[Translation]***New Divisions and Zones**

802. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up new Divisions and Zones for efficient functioning of the Railway;

(b) if so, the names of places where new Divisions and Zones are proposed to be set up.

(c) whether the Government propose to review the earlier decision taken in this regard.

(d) if so, the details thereof and

(e) if not, the time by which new Divisions and zones are likely to be created?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e). The issues relating to reorganisation of Zones and divisions in the wake of Project Unigauge and the construction of Konkan Railway have recently been studied by this Ministry. Further processing for the formulation of proposals and other related matters is being undertaken.

*[English]***Suspension of Trains**

803. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the train services have been suspended in the Bankura Damodar River Railway Section;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make alternative arrangements for the passengers of that section during the period of suspension of the train services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes. Sir

(b) This has been done on safety considerations as existing steam locos provided by the owning Railway Company have outlived their life and the Company has not agreed to make any capital investment on the line.

(c) The number of daily passengers is around 150 and adequate road transport services are available on this route, since the Bankura-Durgapur Road runs parallel to the BDR line upto Km. 68 and thereafter it is about 3 to 10 Kms. away from the Railway alignment upto Km. 87. Further, a survey for conversion and extension of the BDR line upto Tarakeswar-Burdwan-Durgapur has been proposed in the latest Budget and alternative arrangements would depend on outcome of the Survey and decision thereof.

12.00 hrs.

*[English]***PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE****Notification under Sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1995**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 306(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th April, 1996 indicating the supplies of fertilisers to be made by Domestic manufacturers of fertilisers to various States Union Territories. Commodity Board during the period from the 1st April 1996 to the 30th September, 1996 (Kharif 1996 Season) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1995.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-99/96]

**Notifications under Section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989 and Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Railways Finance Corporation Ltd., New Delhi for 1994-95 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers etc.**

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : I beg to lay on the Table

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989

(i) The Railway Passengers (Cancellation of Tickets and Refund of Fares) Amendment Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 116(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th March, 1996

(ii) The Indian Railways (Open Lines) General (Amendment) Rules, 1996 published in Notification G.S.R. 83 in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 1996.

[Placed in Library. See No. L T-100/96]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T-101/96]

**Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 1996 and Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun for 1994-95 alongwith statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : I beg to lay on the Table

- (1) A copy of the Environment (Protection) (Amendment) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 176(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd April, 1996, under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. L T-102/96]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the year 1994-95.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library See No. L T-103/96]

**RE: DEATHS DUE TO STAMPEDE AT HARIDWAR AND UJJAIN**

[Translation]

SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI (Haridwar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Yesterday a tragic accident took place in Haridwar, a holy city, in which 26 people including children and women, lost their lives and many other people sustained injuries. The administration despite expecting a large crowd at that place did not take any precaution. There was only one bridge for the movement of the people and neither the administration nor the police thought of putting a rope between the bridge to make it a two way path. The police had accommodated small vendors of their choice there and they collected money from them. In spite of large crowd there, these vendors were also not removed.

I, through you, would like to draw the attention of this House as well as of the Government towards this accident. Many such accidents have taken place in the past. One bridge has been lying damaged there for a long time but the Government has not paid attention towards it so far... (Interruptions) Many irregularities have been committed there. Will the loss be compensated by giving rupees one lakh each to a few people? I would like to request the Government to get the damaged bridge reconstructed there and make a provision of one way on this bridge. The policy officers who are responsible for the accident, should be punished... (Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday, at 5 a.m. some were going to Ujjain for Darshan on the occasion of 'Somwati Amawasya'. When the local Commissioner was performing pooja at the VIP gate, the crowd became uncontrollable and there was a stampede. Due to this, about 45 people were killed and several others injured. The injured are neither getting any proper treatment nor any assistance. The administration officials are not paying attention. Yesterday, attention of the Government was drawn towards this accident and the Government had assured that it would come out with a statement today in this regard. I request you to ask the Government to make a statement in this regard and provide relief worth rupees two lakhs to the family members of the deceased. The injured should also be provided relief and arrangement should be made for making treatment facility available to them.

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (Dumariaganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the accidents which took place yesterday at Haridwar and Ujjain were really tragic. Not only the families of the deceased but the whole country and this House is grief stricken over these accidents. According to my information carelessness had been shown by the administration there.

Sir, I would also like to state that on such occasions when millions of pilgrims gather at one place, the administration should make proper arrangements of sanitation, lodging and 'Darshan' so as to avert any untoward incidents... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Ujjain is a famous pilgrimage. After every twelve years, a fair is organised there. After every four years, on 'Somwati Amawasya' which falls on a special Monday, this fair is organised. It was 'Somwati Amawasya' on that day and millions of people were expected to gather there. The administration was expected to keep this in mind but the higher officials knowingly organised a drink party one day before the Mela and they were all intoxicated. They did not pay attention towards the arrangements for the fair and it resulted into death of 40 persons including children. The Verrandah is very wide there. So, there was no question of suffocation. It was only due to mismanagement on the part of the