

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

**Setting up a university for study of Indian culture at Guruvayoor (Kerala)**

\*57. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a University at Guruvayoor, Kerala for the study of Indian culture, arts and literature; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government.

(b) Does not arise.

**Losses Incurred by Hindustan Copper Ltd.**

\*58. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Copper Limited has made steady efforts to contain the losses suffered by it earlier;

(b) whether the recently announced reduced prices of copper have increased its operational losses further; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND

MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c). A statement is given below .

**STATEMENT**

(a) to (c). Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) is the sole indigenous primary producer of copper. The selling prices of copper in the country depend on the international prices and the prevailing import duties and are fixed every month. When there was a spurt in the international prices, the import duties were reduced. Consequent on this reduction of import duty on 30.12.1987 from 140% ad valorem to 95% ad valorem, the selling price of copper was fixed at Rs. 75,000/- per tonne of wire bar for January, 1988 against Rs. 80,000/- per tonne fixed in December, 1987. At this price HCL makes a profit on its operations.

The Company has taken various measures to control costs of production and contain losses. Against a loss of Rs. 27.71 crores during 1985-86, the provisional results for 1986-87 indicate a loss of Rs. 8.87 crores. These figures exclude interest on Govt. loan. The position is expected to further improve during 1987-88.

**Implementation of Agreement with University Teachers**

\*59. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:  
SHRIKALIPRASAD PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agreement reached between Government and the University and College teachers on September 4, 1987 has not been implemented as yet;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (c). The specific commitments made by the Central Government were communicated to all the State Governments through a D.O. letter dated 7.9.1987. The modified scheme has been implemented by the Central Universities. The question of institution of a selection grade for lecturers, which was left for further consultation has since been considered. The recommendations of the UGC to institute a selection grade equivalent to that of a Reader namely, Rs. 3700-5700, is in the process of finalisation. There-after the Government proposes to communicate a revised scheme incorporating all the modifications.

**Train accidents at Shambhu Station on Northern Railway**

\*60. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY:  
SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a serious accident at Shambhu Station (Northern Railway) in December, 1987 due to collision between a passenger train and a good train, followed by another similar accident within 48 hours at the same station due to collision between a passenger train and a goods train;

(b) whether the causes of the first accident were enquired into;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of compensation and relief provided to the families of the deceased and to the persons injured; and

(e) the precautions which were taken after the first accident to prevent the recur-

rence of a similar mishap in the same Station area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

**STATEMENT**

(a) Yes, Sir. The first accident took place at Sambhu Station at about 8.07 hrs. on 16.12.87 and the other between Sambhu and Rajpura stations at 9.47 hrs on 18.12.87.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) According to the provisional findings of the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Northern Circle, working under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, who conducted the statutory inquiry into the first accident, the collision occurred due to improper taking off of the Down despatch signal of the Station.

(d) Ex-gratia payment at the rate of Rs. 5,000/- to the next of kin of the identified dead, Rs. 2,000/- each to the grievously injured and Rs. 250/- each to those with minor injuries was made immediately after the accident. Compensation will be awarded by the Ad-hoc Claims Commissioner being appointed for the purpose.

(e) The following safety measures are taken to prevent accidents of this nature:

i) A special drive was launched for counselling of Signal Maintainers, drivers and station staff;

ii) ambush checks to ensure that the drivers correctly observe signals and follow speed restrictions in the automatic signalling