

(c) the action taken to fix the responsibility for these accidents, and to check recurrence of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI

GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The number of persons killed in the train accidents at Mangra station near Daltonganj, at Dulariya on Itarsi-Khandwa section and at unmanned level crossing near Ujjain which occurred during the June is as under:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Place of accident</i>	<i>No. of persons killed</i>
1	2	3
1.	Mangra station	22
2.	Dulariya station	4
3.	Near Ujjain station	1 (Driver of Matador Van)

(b) Compensation is awarded by the Railway Claims Tribunal having jurisdiction over the place of accident. This is judicial body. However, an ex-gratia amount of Rs. 95,000/- has been paid to the injured and to the next of kin of those killed in the accidents.

(c) The accident at Mangra station near Daltonganj is being inquired into by the Commissioner of railway Safety, Western Circle and his report is awaited.

In case of accident at Dulariya station, the Driver and Assistant Driver of the train and Assistant Station Master, Dulariya have been held responsible.

The accident which occurred near Ujjain was due to negligence of Matador driver.

Some of the steps being taken to prevent such accidents are as under:—

- (i) Ambush checks in automatic signalling territory to monitor the adherence to rules.
- (ii) Random administration of breathalyser tests.

(iii) Frequent footplate inspections to monitor the visibility and lighting of signals.

(iv) Ensuring that running staff avail proper rest between spells of duty.

(v) To improve safety at level crossings and minimise the accidents thereat, various devices like interlocking of level crossing gates, provision of telephone connections to the stations, warning bells, lifting barriers and road signals etc. have been provided.

(vi) Frequent publicity campaigns in order to educate road users on the precautions to be taken at level crossings.

Rail Link Between Gouda and Panjwara

107. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to

link the Gouda district of Bihar with Panjagar rail halt; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Export of Industrial Alcohol

108. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO NANASAHEB GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received any proposal to increase the export of industrial alcohol from 200 million liters to about 700 million liters;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision in this regard; and

(c) if not, by what time the decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Keeping in view the likely surpluses and available infrastructure for exports, 200 million litres of alcohol has been allowed for export. More quantities will be allowed for exports, if the situation so warrants.

Hiring of Helicopters

109. DR. BENGALI SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries from where Government have hired helicopters and the expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) whether these helicopters were fully utilised for the purpose for which they were hired and if not, the reasons therefore; and

(c) whether some helicopters were sent back and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Supply of Petroleum Products to Karnataka

110. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESHWARI. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have reduced the supply of kerosene and petrol to Karnataka;

(b) if so, the extent to which kerosene and petrol have been reduced;

(c) the total quantity supplied previously; and

(d) the details of reduction made to other States?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) (b) and (d). There has been no reduction in supply of petrol to Karnataka. However, due to severe constraint of foreign exchange resources, allocation of kerosene to all states has been reduced for the monsoon block this year by agreeing to only 4% rate of growth as compared to 7% agreed for the corresponding period last year.