

(Rewa Ghat) at Muzaffarpur. The scheme could not however be progressed due to the State Government having not finalised the alignment of the approaches. As far as the Railway is concerned, the work on the bridge structure would be taken up as soon as the State Government finalise the alignment of the approaches.

Accidents on N.E.F. Railway

228. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of accidents on the North-East frontier Railway during the years 1965, 1966 and 1967?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): There were 185, 171 and 165 train accidents during the years 1965, 1966 and 1967 respectively in the categories of collisions, derailments, trains running into road traffic at level crossings and fires in trains on the Northeast Frontier Railway.

Decontrol of Scarce Iron and Steel Items

229. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES and METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to decontrol certain scarce items of iron and steel; and

(b) if so, when the decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b). Price and distribution control on all categories of iron and steel has been lifted with effect from the 1st May, 1967. Responsibility of fixing of prices and distribution of all categories has been entrusted to the Joint Plant Committee. However, the question of the future of the Joint Plant Committee and the feasibility of revising the existing procedure for distribution is under consideration.

Arkonam Railway Workshop

230. SHRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received from the workers of Arkonam Railway Workshop;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) to (c). Representations have been received against reduction in the staff strength in the Engineering Workshops at Arkonam resulting in staff being rendered surplus. They are being considered.

Bombay-Howrah Janata Express

231. SHRI DEORAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a Bombay-Howrah Janata Express via Nagpur taking into account the demand made by the people; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

महाराष्ट्र में सीमेंट फैक्ट्रियां

232. श्री देवराव पाटिल: क्या औद्योगिक विकास तथा समवाय-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने महाराष्ट्र राज्य में यवतमाल जिले में चनखा, वर्नी तथा पंढूरकुवडा में सीमेंट फैक्ट्रियां स्थापित करने का कोई निर्णय लिया है ;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इस क्या कारण है ।

(ग) क्या वहां पर सी बर्षों तक के लिये पक्की कच्चा माल उपलब्ध है ; और