

are being taken to prevent thefts of railway property and to recover the stolen goods:-

1. Escorting of trains carrying valuable and important consignments as far as possible.
2. Intensive beat patrolling in yards and other vulnerable areas/ sections.
3. Joint checking at interchange points to take stock of the condition of wagons carrying consignments. Vulnerable to theft etc. for localising the place of occurrence.
4. RPF armed pickets are posted/ deployed in vulnerable sections as far as possible.
5. Plain clothed RPF personnel are also deployed to collect crime intelligence with a view to tracking down the criminals and receivers of the stolen railway property.
6. Log squads are deployed for patrolling in vulnerable yards and areas as per their availability.
7. Close co-ordination between the RPF, the GRP and the local police is maintained at various levels to deal with criminals and receivers of stolen property.

[English]

Employment in Agricultural Sector

2996. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employment in Agriculture Sector has declined during the last four decades;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for this decline; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the employment in Agriculture Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The number of persons engaged in Agriculture as cultivators and agricultural labourers has gone up from 97.2 million in 1951 to 185.2 million in 1991.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) For expansion of employment in Agricultural Sector, the Eighth Five Year Plan lays stress on growth and diversification of agriculture into high value items including horticulture, animal husbandry, dairy, fisheries, etc.

[Translation]

Irregularities by Depots of C.W. C.

2997. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether irregularities have been found during inspection of the various depots under the control of the Central Warehousing Corporation;