

(b) There was no report of short supplies of these items through retail outlets in U.P. during May and June, 1991.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

### Train Accidents

172. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN  
PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of train accidents during the last six months in the country, zone-wise ;

(b) the reasons therefor ;

(c) the number of persons killed and injured as a result thereof, zone-wise ;

(d) whether there has been an increase in the number of accidents in comparison to the last year ;

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such accidents ; and

(f) the details of compensation provided to the victims ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) :

(a) to (f) A Statement is attached.

### STATEMENT

(a) to (c) Railway-wise number of train accidents and casualties therein during the period January to June 1991 is as under :

Railway	Number of train accidents during Jan. to June 1991	Number of persons	
		Killed	Injured
Central . . . . .	22	8	22
Eastern . . . . .	33	19	37
Northern . . . . .	25	20	115
North Eastern . . . . .	8	9	58
Northeast Frontier . . . . .	27	2	13
Southern . . . . .	40	4	5
South Central . . . . .	29	2	25
South Eastern . . . . .	40	38	71
Western . . . . .	26	6	63

Accidents took place mainly due to failure of railway staff, equipment failure, negligence of road users and sabotage.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Some of the important steps taken to reduce the accidents are—

(i) induction of technical devices to aid the human element.

(ii) intensive and frequent inspections of sensitive installations.

(iii) monitoring the performance of the staff of critical safety categories such as drivers, guards, station masters, etc.

(iv) intensive training including psychological checks of staff in operational categories.

(v) surprise checks against carriage of inflammable/explosive material in passenger trains.

(vi) provision of whistle boards/speed breakers and road signs at the approaches of unmaned level crossings and improving visibility for road users and train drivers.

(f) Compensation to the victims is awarded by the Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal in whose jurisdiction accident takes place and claims are settled as and when the awards are received. A sum of Rs. 4.25 lakhs has been paid as compensation. Besides, ex-gratia relief amounting to Rs. 3.52 lakhs was given to the next of kith and kin of the killed and to the injured.

[English]

#### **Development of Chilka Lake**

173. SHRI BRIJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Union Government that Chilka Lake in Orissa is getting silted;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have allotted any financial assistance to remove the silt and open the passage to the sea ; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for the development of Chilka Lake as a tourist spot ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Government.

[Translation]

#### **Railway Lines from Darbhanga to Mansi**

174. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend railway line up to Mānsi via Darbhanga-Kusheshwar Asthan in Bihar in view of the backwardness of the area ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The Railways are facing an acute constraint of resources. The funds provided for new lines are inadequate to progress even the works on hand. It would not be possible to consider these new lines.

#### **Allotment of Petrol Pumps and LPG Agencies to SCs/STs**

175. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol pumps and cooking gas agencies in the country, State-wise ; and

(b) the number of such agencies given to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes dealers ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The required details are given in the enclosed statement.