

(c) the reasons for the unabated continuance of accidents and derailments; and

(d) the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) During the last three years, only one Commission of Enquiry under Justice N. Venkatachala, a retired Judge of Supreme Court has been appointed by the Ministry of Railways to enquire into the causes of accidents involving (i) collision of Up 3151 Jammu Tawi Express against Up BKSC Goods train on Eastern Railway on 1-6-1995, and (ii) derailment of train No. 8448 Hirakhand Express which occurred on S. E. Railway on 1-6-1995. The commission concluded rash and negligent behaviour of the station staff at Kalubathan on Eastern Railway and unrenowned bad track condition in Sambalpur Division of South Eastern Railway respectively, being responsible for these accidents. The commission made the following major suggestions for checking collisions and derailments on Railways.

Suggestions for Checking collisions:

- (i) Track circuiting
- (ii) Auxillary Warning System
- (iii) Mobile Radio Communication
- (iv) Solid State Interlocking
- (v) Use of pre-stressed reinforced concrete sleepers
- (vi) Ensuring supply of quality spare parts for railway maintenance etc.

Suggestions for checking derailments :

- (i) Thorough detection of rail flaws.
- (ii) Making good of shortage in track maintenance gangs
- (iii) Track renewal
- (iv) Improving infrastructure and other facilities in the train examination depots.
- (v) Timely action to prevent spring breakages
- (vi) Provision of additional washing lines/pit lines at all sizable carriage sheds.
- (vii) Posting of technically qualified persons as TXRs and avoid indiscriminate promotions of fitters etc. as TXR.
- (viii) Ensuring adequate supply of spare stores at all carriages depots.

(ix) Check on introduction of new coaching service.

(x) Periodical cadre review.

All these recommendations have been accepted and implemented by the Ministry of Railways. An Action Taken Report together with the Report of the commission has been laid on the Table of the Sabha on 20th December 1996.

(c) Despite all out efforts to contain them, accidents on the railways occur mainly due to human error, equipment failures, sabotage and other incidental factors.

(d) Rs. 26.52 lakhs.

[Translation]

Full Time Programmes on LPT

2619. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast full time regular programmes through Low Power T.V. Transmission centres in Deoria, Gorakhpur districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to start these channel under a time bound programme; and

(d) if so, the time by which these channels are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) While a High Power TV transmitter (HPT) at Gorakhpur and a Low Power TV transmitter (LPT) at Deoria are, at present, operational in these districts and providing regular transmission of National network programmes and Regional service of Uttar Pradesh, there is no approved scheme, at present, to relay any other channels from these transmitters.

Scheme for Thermal Power Plant

2620. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to make the thermal power plants of the country pollution free and to increase their efficiency;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and