

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Indian Railways do not have any serious or system deficiency in disaster management preparedness though few location specific deficiencies on areas of emergency preparedness, post incident response and other safety and security issues have been pointed out in the Performance Audit Report (No.PA 8 of 2008) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2007 on Disaster Management in Indian Railways. The disaster management efforts of the Indian Railways have been viewed in isolation in the report which is not appropriate as it is the responsibility of all the stake holders to share their expert resources to deal with all types of disasters including those affecting railways. The present and the latest concept of disaster management in India emphatically lay stress on participation by all the stake holders and integration of resources available with all the stake-holders has been the major thrust envisioned in the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There is no shortage of trained manpower, proper communication equipment and rescue and relief equipment on trains. Accident Relief Medical vans, Accident Relief Trains, High capacity breakdown cranes and other equipment have been provided at different places for expeditious restoration of traffic and immediate relief to passengers.

Institutional credit to agriculture sector

†*172. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a target to provide institutional credit worth Rs.2,80,000 crore to the agriculture sector was set for current financial year;

(b) if not, what was the amount;

(c) whether Government has obtained information concerning credit given to agriculture sector from June to the end of September this year; and

(d) if so, the total volume thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As per the information made available by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), the total credit flow to agriculture sector for the period 01 June, 2008 to 30th September, 2008 is Rs.81,363.62 crore.

Steps to increase production of oilseeds and pulses

†*173. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi