

lity study of a rail bridge on the Ganges near Patna is in progress. A final decision will be taken in consultation with the Government of Bihar after the receipt of the detailed survey report, and the same examined, subject to availability of funds and clearance by the Planning Commission.

. Railway accidents

250. SHRI CHIMAN BHAI MEHTA:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of railway accidents occurred during the period from 1.11.1983 to 10.4.1984 on different railway zones;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) the details of loss of life and property;

(d) the amount of compensation paid to passengers and railway employees killed/injured in these accidents;

(e) the reasons for the accidents;

(f) whether sabotage has been one of the reasons of involvement of foreign hands in any of the above accidents; and

(g) what steps are being taken to prevent recurrence of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c) Railway-wise details of the train accidents and number of persons killed thereon during the period from 1.11.1983 to 15.4.1984 is as under:

Railway	No. of Accidents			No.				
	Collision	Deraiment	Level crossing accident	Fire in train	Collision	Deraiment	Level crossing accident	Fire in train
Central	4	23	3	2	—	—	—	8
Eastern	2	32	4	3	—	—	7	—
(Northern	5	3	7	—	43	—	7	—
North Eastern	2	12	4	—	—	—	5	—
Northern Frontier	1	42	3	—	1	2	—	—
Southern	1	27	2	—	—	—	—	—
South-Central	—	—	7	2	—	—	—	—
South-Eastern	4	5	5	—	1	—	4	—
Western	1	24	4	1	—	3	1	—

In one accident at Bahadurgarh on 10-2-84. 43 persons were killed.

The cost of damage to Railway property due to these accidents has been estimated as Rs. 5.17 crores.

(d) No compensation has been paid so far in these cases. Compensation according

to the provisions of Sec. 82 of the Indian Railways Act, 1890 will be paid by the Railways immediately as and when awarded by the ad hoc ex officio Claims Commissioners. Ex gratia payments to the next-of-kin of these killed and to the injured have been made.

(e) and (f) Sabotage was the cause of five accidents. The other causes were failure of the human element—railway staff and others, failure of equipment and incidental factors. There is no evidence to suspect involvement of foreign hands.

(g) Some of the measures taken to prevent train accidents are

(i) raising the level of safety consciousness among the staff at all levels by intensive and meaningful inspection;

(ii) stringent punitive action against the staff responsible for accidents;

(iii) provision of more technological aids like track-circuiting, automatic reversal of signals after passing of a train, etc. to supplement human vigilance, in a phased manner;

(iv) installation of Auxiliary Warning System which first gives an audiovisual warning to a Driver if he does not heed a signal at a dajiger and eventually brings the train to a stop;

(v) rehabilitation of rolling stock on track within resources available;

(vi) progressive manning of unimproved level crossings where necessary and providing interlocking, lifting barrier etc. at busy manned level crossing gates;

(vii) liaison with State Governments for observance of Motor Vehicles Rules by the road users while passing level crossings;

(viii) educative publicity through posters and other media about hazards in carrying inflammable articles in compartments, caution to be exercised while negotiating the level crossings etc.

(ix) intensification of anti-sabotage measures like:—

(a) Patrolling of track;

(b) Burring of fish bolts where after the nuts are tightened on the bolt, the threads on the bolt are des-

troyed and the bolt cannot be removed without using a chisel;

(c) Reducing the number of fish plated joints by welding of rail joints.

incidence of malaria

251. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) the incidence of malaria with particular reference to *P. falciparum* malaria during the last three years; and

(b) what steps are being taken for controlling or eradicating malaria and particularly *P. falciparum* malaria?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) The total incidence of malaria, and *P. falciparum* malaria, as reported by the States and Union Territories during the last three years is as follows:—

Year	Total Incidence	<i>P. falciparum</i>
1981	3673795	
1982	2182303	551057
(Provident)	1897297	531784

(b) Is it possible to control the incidence of malaria as well as the *P. falciparum* malaria. the following specific steps are being taken:—

(1) The area is visited fortnightly by a surveillance worker to detect cases, collect blood smears and give AC treatment.

(2) The laboratories in the 'Pravara Health Centre' provide prompt examination of blood smears of fever cases and institution of radical treatment of fatal cases.