

students and young boys had travelled in these coaches in the morning of 17-7-1983, Ex-Ludhiana to Amritsar where this Rake becomes 118 Dn./117 Up, which runs from Amritsar to Ludhiana and back, and they were suspected to have inscribed and written these slogans during the journey.

Extension of Central Government Health Scheme

1172. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's plan to extend the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) to some more cities has been abandoned; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (MISS KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI): (a) and (b) Due to the general resources constraint the proposal to extend the CGHS to any new city during the Sixth Five Year Plan has been kept in abeyance.

Badrinath Express

1173. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government once considered a suggestion for starting Badrinath Express from Delhi to Kotdwara (U.P.);

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that pilgrims and other Passengers are greatly inconvenienced for want of a special train from Delhi to Kotdwara; and

(c) what steps are being taken or proposed to be taken to start an express train from Delhi to Kotdwara?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) to (c) This proposal has been considered but not

found feasible at present for want of line capacity on sections en-route, lack of terminal facilities and shortage of Coaching stock.

Train from Jammu Tawi to Delhi

1174. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been urged to start a day time railway train from Jammu Tawi to Delhi in view of the fast increasing pilgrims' influx in Vaishnudevi; and

(b) whether Government propose to extend the Flying Mail to Jammu, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

Railway from Dharmanagar to Kumarghat

1175. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that progress of work of Railway construction from Dharmanagar to Kumarghat is very slow;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the earth work has not yet been finished;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the construction is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) to (c) The overall progress of the work is 15.5 per cent. The progress was somewhat hampered due to malarial conditions, disturbed law and order situation in the last working season resulting in failure of some contractors—17 lakhs cums of earth work has been done against 44 lakh cums. The work is going on in spite of adverse working conditions.

(d) by 1986, subject to availability of resources.

Foodgrains stock with FCI

1176. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total stock of foodgrains, with the Food Corporation of India as on the 31st March, 1983;

(b) the break-up of the stock item-wise;

(c) the quantities to be procured, item-wise, during 1983-84;

(d) the sanctioned level of buffer stock, item-wise;

(e) the value thereof; and

(f) the interest payable on the loan capital and the estimated storage and handling charges and natural wastage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b) The total stock of foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India as on 31st March, 1983, was about 9.13 million tonnes. The grain-wise break up is given below:

	(In million tonnes)
Rice	As on 31st March, 1983
Wheat	4.61
CG	4.52
	Neg.
TOTAL	9.13

(c) As the kharif marketing season 1983-84 (Oct.-Sept.) will commence only from 1st October, 1983, no precise estimate for the procurement of kharif cereals can be given at this stage. As regards rabi cereals for the marketing season 1983-84 (April-March), a record procurement of 82.16 lakh tonnes of wheat has been made as reported upto 30th July, 1983. As the main procurement season is already over, only a small quantity of wheat is expected to be procured in the remaining period of the season.

(d) On the recommendations of the Technical Group on buffer stocking

policy constituted in 1975, the Government decided to maintain a buffer stock of 12 million tonnes over and above the operational stock with a composition of wheat and rice at 75.25 for the present.

(e) The value of 12 million tonnes of buffer stocks would be about Rs. 2300 crores.

(f) Total interest charges estimated to be incurred by the Food Corporation of India during 1983-84 are Rs. 341.17 crores (on bank overdraft Rs. 312.00 crores and the Government of India loans and others Rs. 29.17 crores). Total storage charges estimated to be incurred for foodgrains during 1983-84 are Rs. 94.96 crores and handling charges Rs. 59.81 crores. It is difficult to estimate the value of natural wastage.

Irrigation for additional cultivable land

1177. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the additional cultivable area brought under irrigation during 1980-81, 1981-82 and 1982-83, State-wise;

(b) the cultivable area that remains to be brought under irrigation and the area under irrigation on 1-4-1980, State-wise; and

(c) the major projects, State-wise, under execution during 1983-84 with the irrigation capacity of each?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) A statement showing the creation of additional irrigation potential State-wise during 1980-81, 1981-82 and 1982-83 is enclosed (Statement-I).

(b) The total cultivable area in the country has been assessed as 186 million hectares. The whole of it cannot be covered by irrigation. The ultimate irrigation potential has been assessed as 113.4 m.ha. Upto June, 1980 a potential of 56.5 million hectares has been created. A State-wise break-up is enclosed (Statement-II).

(c) A statement is attached (Statement-III).