

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the said proposal;

(c) whether Government has made any survey that a large number of uniformed defence personnel are performing their duty at Jamnagar and not at Ahmedabad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) Representations to operate "Janambhoomi Express" between Jamnagar and Udhampur and Duronto train between Jamnagar and New Delhi have been received and have not been found feasible for implementation due to operational constraints. Janambhoomi Express train announced in the Railway Budget 2010-11 will run between Ahmedabad and Udhampur.

(c) and (d) This is not within the purview of the Ministry of Railways.

Regulations for handling of hazardous material in laboratories

*398. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the University Grants Commission (UGC) to frame regulations for procurement, handling, storage, transport and disposal of hazardous material in universities and colleges across the country;

(b) if so, the details of action taken by UGC in this regard;

(c) whether any physical surveillance has been conducted by UGC at laboratories of various universities/colleges across the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, how does the Government/UGC propose to monitor the activities of these laboratories in future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. University Grants Commission (UGC) has constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. G. K. Rath of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), vide order dated 3rd May, 2010 to frame guidelines for universities, research institutes and colleges for procurement, storage, usage, and disposal of radioactive and other hazardous materials/chemicals.

(c) and (d) According to the UGC, the Committee has held detailed discussions, conducted site visits and inspection of several laboratories and has also obtained information from 21 universities. Draft guidelines recommended by the Committee are under examination of the UGC.

Rotting of foodgrains

*399. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that millions of tonnes of foodgrains are on the verge of total rot throughout the country as these are covered only under tarpaulins and are exposed to monsoon rains;

(b) if so, the details thereof with a list of total foodgrains stored under tarpaulins during the last three years;

(c) whether Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the monetary value of such foodgrains;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to save these foodgrains from rotting?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) There has been higher procurement of foodgrains for Central Pool during the last two years. As all stocks cannot be stored in existing covered godowns of FCI and State Government agencies, some of them are also stored in cover and plinth (CAP) storage. However, no foodgrains are stored under tarpaulin. Storage in CAP is on scientific lines and precautionary measures are taken to preserve the stocks as per guidelines.

During last three years, following quantities were stored by FCI in CAP:

As on	Quantity (in Lakh Tons)
31.07.2007	3.10
31.07.2008	5.93
31.07.2009	15.70