

(c) In order to reduce the incidence of accidents at level crossings, various measures have been taken such as provision of cautionary road signs, 'Stop Boards' to warn the road users of unmanned level crossings ahead; provision of 'Whistle Boards' at unmanned level crossings and also at manned level crossings where visibility is restricted, enjoining upon the train drivers to whistle; periodical census of traffic to determine the need for manning or upgrading of the level crossings; educative campaigns among road users through leaflets, cinema slides, announcements on loudspeakers, radio talks, personal contacts with drivers and transport associations; surprise checks at level crossings etc. Most of the State Governments have legislated under the Motor Vehicle Rules to make it obligatory on the part of the drivers of motor vehicles to stop short of unmanned level crossings and only then cross the railway track with the conductor walking ahead. Checks are also conducted in co-ordination with police authorities to ensure rigid compliance with the Motor Vehicle Rules by the road users. All State Governments and Union Administrations have also been requested to strictly enforce the provisions of Motor Vehicle Rules; inscribe the word "Danger" on the top of road signs provided at the approaches to all level crossings and provide speed-breakers (bumps) on the approach roads to all level crossings.

Changes in the Monopolies Act

346. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has suggested changes in the Monopolies Act to facilitate speedy disposal of cases; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABARATA BARUA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The changes suggested by the Commission are under examination. 3—L1060RSS/75

Demands of the Muslim Law Board

347. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Muslim Law Board has urged the Government not to encroach upon the inheritance laws in the Shariat with regard to the regulation of Wakfs and improper wordings of certain Sections of the Land Ceiling Act;

(b) what steps have been taken to meet the demands made by the Muslim Board in this regard; and

(c) whether any guidelines have been sent to the State Government concerning this matter'.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN, THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD) : (a) No such request was received in this Ministry from the All India Muslim Law Board.

i b) and (c) Do not arise.

International Business Machines

348. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the percentage of equity shares of the International Business Machines in foreign hand; and

(b) what are the functions of this company in India ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABARATA BARUA) : (a) The present name of International Business Machines is I.B.M. World Trade Corporation. The company is incorporated in the United States of America and is having a branch in India. The entire capital of the company is in foreign hands.

(b) The objects of the company as given in the certificate of incorporation are as follows :

'(i) To manufacture, purchase, import or otherwise acquire, to hold, use, develop, or otherwise turn to account to sell mortgage, lease, distribute or other-

wise deal in or dispose of patented or unpatented machines, apparatus, appliances or products of every class and description.

(ii) To carry on a general jobbing, commission and merchandising business and to manufacture, purchase or otherwise acquire, to hold, own, use, develop or otherwise turn to account, to mortgage, sell, pledge, distribute or otherwise dispose of goods, wares and merchandise of every class and description lawful for a corporation organized under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware".

Deal with Hungary for drug production and Raw Materials

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: I the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

I whether it is a fact that Hungary is ready to help drug-production in India and has agreed to supply raw materials for 'Methyl dopa'; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI PRAKASH CHAND B. SETHI) : (a) and (b) The S.T.C. is importing from Hungary bulk Methyl Dopa to the extent of 11 tones. The Bulk material is being formulated by LD.P.L. and a few other Indian manufacturers.

Approval for Manufacture of Acrylates to American Company

350. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an American company INDOFIL Chemicals Ltd. has received approval from the Project Approval Board of Industry to manufacture acrylates; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The case is under consideration of Government.

Employment to minorities and weaker section

351. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHIM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to offer more employment opportunities in the Railways to members of minorities and weaker sections of the society; and

(h) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Prime Minister's 20-Point Economic Programme besides other things offer more employment opportunities to members of weaker section of the society including minorities and Railway Administration is implementing it.

Improvement in the Goods Operation

352. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHIM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been remarkable improvement in the Railway Goods operations as a result of the recent drive initiated by Government; and

(In if so, the results achieved between July, 1975 to December, 1975?)

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes.

(b) Record level of wagon loadings have been achieved in successive months from July 1975 onwards. In December 1975, the daily average wagon loading on the Broad Gauge exceeded 25,000 wagons which is an all time record for any month of any year. During the six month period July-December 1975, the daily average wagon loading on the Broad Gauge has been 23,580 wagons as compared to 23,092 wagons in the preceding six month period and 21,552 wagons in the corresponding period of the last year. The daily average

MI loading on the M.G. was also at a high level of 5,244 wagons.

Rapid strides have been made in the loading of coal as a result of which stock-