

(b) what is the number of mills that are lying closed for more than a year or two and the total number of workers who have been rendered out of job thereby?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) 23 mills remaining closed at the end of October, 1968 had closed down during the previous six months.

(b) 19 cotton textile mills are lying closed for more than one year out of which 9 are lying closed for more than 2 years. The number of workers on roll in these mills is about 29700.

#### TRAIN DRIVERS' SUGGESTIONS ON RAILWAY ACCIDENTS

733. SARDAR RAM SINGH :

CHAUDHARY A. MOHAM-  
MAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that suggestions were invited from the railway drivers about the improvements that could lead to lessening the chances of railway accidents ;

(b) if so, the main suggestions made by them ; and

(c) Government's reactions thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (c) Some drivers of the Northern Railway had made certain suggestions like facilities in running rooms, requirement of vacuum on engines, provision of road signs and supply of uniform etc. Some of the suggestions are already covered by the extant policy while the others are in the nature of complaints in regard to which the Northern Railway administration has been told to explain the correct position to them.

#### TRANSPORTATION OF FODDER TO RAJASTHAN

734. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAM-  
MAD:

SARDAR RAM SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Fodder which has been transported by the Railways from Punjab and other States to Rajasthan during the last few months ;

(b) whether the Railways gave any concession for transporting the fodder ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Fodder to destinations in drought affected districts of Rajasthan is being offered for despatch by rail only from stations on the Northern, Central and Western Railways. During the period from 1st September to 23rd November, 1968. 638 Broad Gauge and 5066 Metre Gauge wagons were loaded with fodder from these Railways to drought affected destinations in Rajasthan.

(b) Yes.

(c) Famine concession rates for fodder from a number of stations on Northern, Western and Central Railways to stations in the famine affected areas of Rajasthan have been introduced as requested by the Government of Rajasthan. The concessional rate is 14 paise per B.G. 4-wheeled wagon per Kilometre subject to a minimum charge of Rs. 10 per wagon and 9.5 paise per M. G. 4-wheeled wagon per Kilometre subject to a minimum charge of Rs. 5 per wagon.

735. [Transferred to the 11th Decern-ber, 1968.]

#### खादी ग्रामोद्योग भवन, नई दिल्ली में चोरी

736. श्रीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि खादी ग्रामोद्योग भवन में हाल ही में भवन मैनेजर को की गई एक लिखित रिपोर्ट के फलस्वरूप लीकेज अथवा चोरी कुछ म मले सामने आये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में मैनेजर ने क्या कार्यवाही की ;

(ग) भवन में हुई पिछली चोरियों का भी इनसे कोई सुराग मिला ; और