

(a) whether Railways are suffering a net loss of over 100 crore per annum due to train accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways have suffered a loss of over Rs.10,000 crore during the last two decades;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether most of the train accidents in the world take place in our country?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Loss of railway property in consequential train accidents excluding cases of trespassing at unmanned level crossings during 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and the current year from April to October, 2011 has been estimated to be Rs. 60.65 crore (approx.), Rs. 53.71 crore (approx.), Rs. 71.93 crore (approx.) and Rs.79.84 crore (approx.), respectively.

(c) No, Sir. Loss to railway property in consequential train accidents during the past 20 years, i.e. from 1992-93 to 2010-11 and the current year from April to October, 2011 has been estimated to be Rs. 1051.23 crore.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir. In terms of Accidents Per Million Train Kilometer, Indian Railways is favourably placed in comparison to many advanced countries.

#### **Representation of SCs and STs in institutions of National Importance**

\*248. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of staff and students of institutions of National Importance represented by members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes-communities in the last five years;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether any measures, over and above those ensured by concerned legislation and court rulings, have been taken to secure adequate representation of these communities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of drop-outs, in the aforementioned institutions amongst Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) There are 30 institutions of National Importance - 7 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), 20 National Institutes of Technology (NITs), 2 Central Universities and 1 Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha under the purview of Ministry of Human Resource Development. The information regarding the percentage of staff and students of institutions of National Importance represented by members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes-communities in the last five years is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) and (d) To secure adequate representation of SCs/STs students in IITs, 5% relaxation in aggregate marks in qualifying examination (10+2) is being allowed in IIT-Joint Entrance Examination. In case the seats reserved for SCs/STs, 15% and 7.5% respectively, are not filled in, a limited number of candidates are admitted to a one year preparatory course and on successful completion of the course the students are admitted in the next year. All SC/ST Students are exempted from payment of tuition fees, provided with free book bank facilities and in case their parental income is below Rs.2 lakhs per annum, free mess with pocket allowance of Rs.250 per month, is provided. The holders of Institute Scholarship for SC/ST are also exempted from payment of hostel seat rent. In addition to (his, various scholarships/fellowships for SC/ST students are being provided by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs and University Grants Commission.

In order to fill up vacancies of staff, as per the prescribed reservation norms, special recruitment drive for recruitment of SCs/STs are launched from time to time.

(e) The statistics on drop-out at degree and above level is not centrally maintained.

**Increase in consumption of fertilizers *vis-a-vis*  
agricultural production**

\*249.PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether consumption of fertilizers has increased by 46 per cent from the year 2003-04 to 2008-09 and whether agricultural production has increased by just 16 per cent over the same period;