

(b) The Line No.1 is the oldest and has carried maximum traffic and, therefore, maximum wear and tear, which is normal and expected. Necessary maintenance is undertaken regularly by DMRC for the operational sections.

(c) and (d) DMRC's planning parameters include provision of curves in the alignment.

The Delhi Metro alignments are in accordance with the planning parameters.

(e) Does not arise.

Steps to alleviate poverty from urban areas

*124. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths in the country in the poorer sections of the society due to malnutrition and starvation and the immediate steps taken by Government to tackle the situation;

(b) the steps taken during the last one year to alleviate poverty from urban areas and the results thereof; and

(c) the number of poor families in urban sector and the quantum of their daily food intake?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Malnutrition is a multifaceted, multidimensional and multi-sectoral problem. It is not a direct cause of death. Data on the number of deaths due to malnutrition in the country is not maintained centrally. No State or Union Territory has reported any incidence of death due to starvation. For tackling the problem of hunger in the country and to ensure that people living below poverty line get adequate food grains, the Government has been providing food grains at highly subsidized prices to the targeted population through the State Governments/UT Administrations under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). During 2011-2012, under TPDS, a quantity of 563.38 lakh tons of food grains have been allocated to States/U.Ts.

(b) To address the concern of urban poverty, the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) since

1997, with focus on skill training and employment generation for urban unemployed and under-employed poor. A total of 2.54 lakh beneficiaries were provided skill training and 1.57 lakh beneficiaries were assisted for setting up of micro enterprises during 2010-2011 under SJSRY.

(c) As per the official estimates released by the Planning Commission, about 8.08 crore persons or 1.62 crore families are below poverty line in urban areas of the country as of 2004-05.

Data on quantum of daily food intake is not available.

Steps to ensure minimum wages to menial workers

*125. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Delhi and other cities., liftmen, sweepers and other menial workers are not getting minimum wages;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether contract labourers are mainly responsible for this situation; and

(d) if so, the measures Government proposes to take, to ensure minimum wages, at least in the National Capital?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) Complaints regarding non-payment of minimum wages are received by the appropriate Government from time to time. On receipt of such complaints, concerned Labour Inspectors are directed to investigate the complaints and to ensure that minimum wage are paid. If minimum wages are still not paid, workmen are entitled to file a claim before the Authority under section 20 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, who then decides the case and passes appropriate orders.

(c) and (d) All workers, including contract labourers, are entitled to minimum wages fixed for scheduled employment under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Whenever there are cases of non-payment of statutory wages, appropriate action is taken as described in (a) and (b) above.

Delhi-Mumbai Industrial corridor

*126. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state: