

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** The hon. Minister has stated that second class is being gradually abolished or withdrawn. Out of 36,000 miles of railway track, may I know the total track mileage on which the second class has been abolished?

**Shri Shah nawas Khan:** The hon. Member is aware that with effect from 1st April, 1956, second class was withdrawn from all branch lines. Then, from 1st April, 1957, it was withdrawn from steam traction suburban sections. The only area now left is on the main lines. If we were to withdraw second class from the main lines, we would incur a loss of approximately Rs 48 lakhs annually. I am sure the hon. Member does not want that.

**Shri Anubindo Ghosal:** May I know whether Government have received complaints from the suburban passengers of Calcutta against the abolition of the second class?

**Shri Shah nawas Khan:** Sometimes, we do receive representations.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Is it a fact that on the long-distance trains such as the trains between Madras and Bombay, between Madras and Delhi, between Calcutta and Bombay etc. the second class is quite popular with the lower middle class and the middle class people?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Has the hon. Member ever travelled in that?

**Shri Shah nawas Khan:** That is quite so.

**Shri Dasappa:** May I know how many changes have been effected in these classifications during the last eight or ten years, and whether we can take it that this is going to be the last of it for some length of time at least?

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** May I know the reason for the abolition of the second class?

**Shri Tyagi:** Socialistic pattern of society.

**Shri Shah nawas Khan:** The main reason was the demand for reducing the number of classes by this House.

**Shri Tyagi:** Classless society.

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** The hon. Minister could have started from the first class, but he has started from the middle ..

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member is entering into an argument.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** The hon. Minister has stated that withdrawal of second class would mean loss of revenue to the railways. May I know whether it is fair to collect more charge without giving further amenities?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. That would be a matter of opinion and of argument.

#### Foreign Tourists and Foreign Exchange earned from them

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\*1771 { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta;**  
**Shri R. S. Tiwari;**  
**Shri Manabendra Shah;**  
**Shri Kodiyam;**  
**Shri Warrier;**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state—

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1958-59,

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned from them,

(c) how do these figures compare with those of the last year, and

(d) the steps taken to attract more foreign tourists to the country?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Tourist statistics are compiled for each calendar year. Foreign tourists who visited India during 1958 were 92,202.

(b) Figures of foreign exchange earned on travel account are assessed by the Reserve Bank of India at the

close of each calendar year and these are generally released by the middle of the following year. Hence the foreign exchange earnings for the year 1958 are not available at present. These figures, when announced by the Reserve Bank of India, will be placed on the Table of the House

(c) The comparative figures of tourist arrivals (excluding Pakistanis and Tibetans) are as follows.

Year	No. of foreign tourists
1957	80,544
1958	92,202

The foreign exchange earned on travel account during the year 1957 was estimated at Rs 16 crores, the corresponding estimates for the year 1958 are not available at present

(d) The various steps taken to attract more foreign tourists are enumerated in Part III of the Annual Report for the year 1958-59 of the Ministry of Transport & Communications (Department of Transport). However, important measures taken *inter alia* are the creation of the Tourist Department, liberalisation of travel formalities, presentation of the report of the Hotel Standards, Rate and Structure Committee, concerted publicity campaign, implementation of the various projects under the Five Year Plan of Tourism etc

**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** May I know the nature of the progress made so far in the implementation of the various projects in the Five Year Plan for tourism?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It will be a very vast question, and I would have to give a regular lecture on that

**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** May I know how far these steps have attracted foreign tourists?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** That is obvious from the increase, which comes to about 14.5 per cent over last year's figure, in the number of tourists

**Shri Anwar Haryani:** May I know whether Government are aware that some of the travelling agencies manipulate in such a way that the tourists who come here have not to spend foreign exchange, and by that manipulation, we are losing some foreign exchange?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** No specific complaints have been made to us in that behalf

**Shri Achar:** May I know which part of the country attracts the largest number of tourists?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I think they are evenly distributed between the Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi regions

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** What about Punjab?

**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** The statement says that the number of tourists has increased from 80,000 to 92,000. May I know whether any estimate has been made by the Department of Tourism of the earning in 1958 and if so, the ratio of increase of the estimated earning of foreign exchange to the number of the tourists coming in?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The estimate of the foreign exchange earning from travel is made by the Reserve Bank, and we expect it by the middle of 1959. It has been, however, estimated that it might come up to Rs 19 crores for the year 1958. But that is a rough estimate and this can be relied upon only after it has been confirmed by the Reserve Bank

**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** I wanted to know the ratio between the increase in the number of tourists and the increase in the amount of foreign exchange earned

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I have just indicated in the statement that the increase in the number of tourists is perhaps 14.5 per cent. Last year, we had earned about Rs 16.2 crores. This year, we can measure the percentage of increase only after the Reserve Bank has given its figures

**Shri Joachim Alva:** What special efforts are made to attract tourists from the South-East Asian countries, and whether Government intend to give them any special rebate because people in these countries are not so very well-placed as the foreign tourists from the West?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is a suggestion for action.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** I would like the first part to be answered.

**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Is it not a fact that the ratio of foreign exchange earning to the number of tourists who are coming here differs very materially? That is, the number of tourists who come in has increased by 20 per cent, whereas the foreign exchange earnings have increased by only 1 per cent. I want to know whether this is a fact or not

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Last year, it was more or less so; about this year, I cannot say

**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** What is the reason for the difference in the ratio?

**Shri Achar:** My question was which part of the country attracted the largest number of tourists, and the hon. Minister was pleased to say that Bombay

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon Member wanted to know which part should attract the greatest number of tourists, and not which part was attracting. The hon Minister said that it was evenly distributed, but the hon Member wanted that he should say that Mysore was the best place

**Shri Achar:** Do the tourists come to see our cities like Bombay and Calcutta, or do they come to see Kashmir and other places?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** If I may say so, comparatively Delhi is most popular. Apart from that, Agra and Bhakra-Nangal are also very popular. They go to Bombay also.

**Shrimati Manjula Devi:** May I know the countries from which the tourists have come?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** They come practically from all over the world, but I can say that many come from the U.S.A., the U.K., France and Germany. I have got the statistics, and they have been also given in a pamphlet which has been issued recently, entitled "India—Tourist Statistics, 1957"

#### Temporary Employees on Central Railway

\*1773. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for higher percentage of temporary employees on the Central Railway than in other Zones;

(b) whether any steps are contemplated for reducing this and bringing it on a par with other Zones; and

(c) if so, what are the steps proposed?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) to (c) Information is being collected and a reply will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** They gave us only the annual report for 1957-58, and that too, only a few days ago. So, why should they ask for time for collection of information?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If it has been given, what further does the hon Member want?

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** There were certain things to be asked. That was why I was asking.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Whatever he wants to get further to that is not available for the present.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** This is a clear question which asks why the percentage is more. That can be calculated and given.