

Another Puisne Judge is on long leave pending retirement.

(b) There has been a great reduction in arrears of Appellate and Revisional criminal cases and civil miscellaneous appeals. On the other hand the number of pending first appeals and second appeals has shown an increase.

(c) There has been an increase of 33 per cent. and 75 per cent. in the number of pending first appeals and second appeals.

#### SCHEDULED CASTES AND TRIBES

\*969. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the names of the States which have made rules in pursuance of the provisions of clause 4 of Article 16 and Article 335 of the Constitution to reserve consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, appointments and posts for the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes?

(b) What percentage, of the appointments in each of the States has been kept reserved for each of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure (No. 28.)]

#### SOVIET BOOKS

\*970. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have imposed any restrictions on the sale of Soviet Books by the Railway bookstalls; and

(b) if so, whether any such restriction has been imposed on journals and books published in America?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) Government have issued instructions to Railway administrations to discourage the sale of such literature at the bookstalls of railway stations. It is frequently of a tendentious nature and it is not desirable that the bookstalls on Government premises should be allowed to be used for the sale of this type of tendentious books and pamphlets. Government have no desire to discourage the sale of books from any country which do not offend in the way indicated above.

(b) No.

#### AHMEDABAD-MEHSANA RAILWAY LINE

\*971. **Shri S. G. Parikh:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that construction of double Railway line between Ahmedabad and Mehsana is sanctioned?

(b) Are Government aware that there is urgent necessity of double line between Ahmedabad and Mehsana?

(c) Are Government aware that there is great detention of several trains both passengers and goods which is due to the congestion and heavy traffic on the lines?

(d) If the double line between Ahmedabad and Mehsana is sanctioned, when is the work likely to be taken up in hand?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) No.

(b) There is need for increasing the line capacity of this section, and the Railway Administration concerned is examining the ways and means of doing so. The method of doubling the line is very expensive and is resorted to only when other methods fail to achieve the objective.

(c) It is not a fact that great detention is caused to both passenger and goods trains on the section.

(d) The question does not arise at this stage.

#### SALE OF PLOTS IN MANIPUR

\*972. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of police and the Secretary of the Manipur Government have secured valuable plots worth Rs. 10,000 each, in the heart of Imphal Bazar only on payment of a nominal premium of Rs. 500 each?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** The officers mentioned by the hon. Member were not allotted residential sites in the heart of Imphal town but beyond the bazar area and were charged a price of Rs. 2,500 per acre which is higher than the rate at which contiguous land had been allotted before integration by the former Manipur administration. I might add that both these officers are refugees from East Pakistan and have lost their properties there.