

(b) The State Government have not communicated their final decision regarding opening these new centres without which the proposal for financial assistance to them could not be considered by the Ministry.

[English]

Duty Hours of Railway Staff

4187. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the actual duty hours for running staff in the Railways;

(b) whether the International Labour Organisation convention No. 1 of 1919 (Washington Convention) is followed for railwaymen, by the Government; and

(c) whether longer duty hours for railway running staff is a contributory factor for railway accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Maximum rostered duty hours for running staff on Railways who are classified as 'Continuous' are 104 hours in a fortnight against the statutory maximum limit of 54 hours a week on an average in a two-weekly period of 14 days as prescribed in the Railways Act, 1989. However, they may be required to work beyond the rostered hours in unavoidable operational exigencies or of accidents, floods, emergencies, etc. and for which overtime allowance is paid.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

Employment of Women in Unregulated Sectors

4188. SHRI R. SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey/study has been undertaken by the Union Government or any State Governments on the employment of women in the unregulated sectors in recent past; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of Udumalpet Stations

4189. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide a face lift to Udumalpet station in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether it is also proposed to modernise the station; and

(c) if so, when proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Vayudoot Services to Mysore

4190. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the airstrips at Mysore, Hubli and Bellary have been closed down recently and the Vayudoot services suspended to Mysore city; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and the