

proposals have so far been received from them indicating the specific year in which they would be able to include this work in their own programme.

Coolies and Labourers working in Chakradharpur

853. Shri H. C. Roy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gang coolies and labourers under the P.W. I. in the Engineering Section, on Raj Kharsawan-Chakradharpur area, Raj Kharsawan-Noamundi area and also in other parts of Chakradharpur Railway district in S.E. Railway, are appointed every month in the first week and discharged at the end of the month and these very coolies and labourers have been working as such in most cases for more than 10 years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the basis of their wages and how they have been fixed? ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The wages are paid on daily basis which are fixed in consultation with the Civil authorities.

Procedure for Reservation of seats on Railways

854. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to extraordinary elaborate procedure followed for reservations of seats on Railways, one has to wait for a considerably long time; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to evolve some suitable procedure to avoid long waiting by passengers

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz

Khan): (a) The prescribed procedure is fairly simple, though waiting is necessitated at times of rush.

(b) Does not arise.

Preservation of Wild Life

855. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for preservation of wild life which is threatened with extinction in the country; and

(b) the details thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) and (b). The steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government of India for the preservation of the vanishing species of wild life are as follows:

1. A number of national parks and wild life sanctuaries have been set up throughout the country to afford effective protection to wild life. The number of such parks and sanctuaries in the country is now over 83. Some of these sanctuaries have been set up for particular rare animals, e.g. the Gir Sanctuary in Gujarat for lions, Kaziranga Sanctuary of Assam for the Great Indian Rhinoceros, and Keibul Lamjao Sanctuary in Manipur for the Brown-Antlered Deer. The question of setting up a sanctuary for the Great Indian Bustard in Rajasthan is also under consideration. The rare species are also protected against shooting in the areas where they are found.
2. The Government of India have placed a ban on the export of live specimens as also on the products of all rare species of fauna.
3. Periodical census in respect of some of the rarer species is undertaken by the State Governments concerned in order