

(c) whether he is aware of the fact that these Laskars are employed on daily rates of pay against posts in time-scales sanctioned from time to time;

(d) whether it is a fact that these Laskars, by virtue of their continuous service and by virtue also of their having been subjected to medical fitness at the time of recruitment, have a claim legitimately for appointment against regular vacancies; and

(e) if the reply to part (d) above be in the affirmative, the number of these Laskars absorbed against regular vacancies during the last 10 years?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) 378.

(b) Between 1 month and 12 years.

(c) Casual labour employed on Construction Projects are always paid daily rates of pay irrespective of duration of their employment.

(d) No, but they are given due consideration when selections for regular appointments are conducted.

(e) Although they have no automatic claim for appointment, 23 Laskars have been regularly appointed as Gangmen.

Import of Soviet Films

7165. Shri Indrajit Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of Soviet films for public screening has been stopped since 1965;

(b) if so, the reasons for the ban;

(c) whether any discussions in this regard were held with the Soviet film delegation which recently visited India; and

(d) Government's purpose in depriving Indian audiences of the op-

portunity to see Soviet masterpieces and classic films?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) and (b) The general import policy for the import of foreign films from the year 1965-66 is 'nil'. However, this year there is a provision for the import of Soviet films worth Rs. 3 lacs on a reciprocal basis.

(c) No discussion about the import of Soviet films were held with the Soviet films delegation which visited India in May, 1967.

(d) Because of shortage for foreign exchange import of foreign films has to be restricted.

Foreign Investments in India

7166. Shri R. Barua:
Shri D. N. Patodia:
Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendations of the Mudaliar Committee regarding foreign investments in India;

(b) whether the field in which foreign private capital participation may be allowed has been defined; and

(c) whether in doing so the growth potential of the country has been taken note of?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) to (c). The Report is under consideration of the Government. After Government have formulated its views on the recommendations in the Report, a copy of the Report, along with Government's decisions thereon, will be placed on the Table of the House.