

(b) No.

(c) During the period of 518 days from 1-6-1969 to 31.10.70, 232 Dn. Passenger failed to connect 31 Dn. Express at Hotgi on 119 days.

(d) Yes, initiation of corrective and punitive measures including launching of special punctuality drives, disciplinary action against the officials found at fault.

(e) Yes, explanations are called for whenever a train runs late.

(f) Explanations are of a nature clarifying the actual reasons of detention so that appropriate punitive or preventive action, as may be necessary, could be taken.

**Stoppage of West Coast Express at Tirur Railway Station (Southern-Railway)**

2182. SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the people of Tirur, Malapuram District, Kerala demanding that the West Coast Express should halt at Tirur Railway Station ; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : (a) Yes.

(b) The demand has been examined but not found justified as long distance traffic offering at the station is not adequate. However, the demand will be reviewed when offering of long distance traffic justifies it.

**Railway Accidents**

2183. SHRI HIMATSINGKA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that within a short span of period in October, 1970, three major Railway accidents occurred in the country ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up a Commission to go into the increasing number of railway accidents ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : (a) Yes. Three serious accidents took place during October, 1970 and statutory inquiries have been held by

the Additional Commissioners of Railway Safety into these accidents.

(b) The number of accidents during the current year from April, 1970 to October, 1970 has been less as compared to the corresponding period of the last year. There is no proposal to set up a Commission to go into the question of railway accidents.

**Selection of Chairman, Railway Service Commission, Allahabad**

2184. SHRI ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the post of Chairman, Railway Service Commission, Allahabad, has been vacant since 25th May, 1970 ;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry is required to suggest four names to the Union Public Service Commission for selection ;

(c) whether it is a fact that only three names were sent this time, and if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the two Railway officials, whose names were suggested by the Railway Ministry, have serious charges pending against them ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to investigate the charges ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The recruitment rules for filling the post of Chairman, Railway Service Commission, provide that the post will be filled by a person selected by Union Public Service Commission from a panel of names forwarded by the Ministry of Railways. No fixed number of names to be included in such a panel has been stipulated in these rules.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

**Housing Scheme for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes**

2185. SHRI K. HALDER : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any housing scheme for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other Backward