

[Translation]

Railway Divisional Office at Nainpur

4369. SHRI M. L. JHIKRAM :
SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the then Railway Minister had assured that a Divisional Office of the Railways would be opened at Nainpur when a railway accident took place in August 1984 near Charegaon Railway Station on Jabalpur-Gondia narrow gauge line; and

(b) if so, the action taken by his Ministry in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a first step, a sub-division at Nainpur has been created with an Officer on Special Duty and other Officers. However, due to constraint of funds, the formation of Nainpur Division has been deferred.

[English]

Duty Hours of Running Staff

4370. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an order to implement 10 hours duty from 'signing on' to 'signing off' to Running Staff has been issued; and

(b) if so, whether the Railway Board have circulated the order and whether the same is being implemented in practice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). Under extant instructions, duty hours of running staff are restricted to 10 at a stretch from "signing on" to "signing off". It has, however, been clarified to the Railways that certain non-running periods should not be

counted for the purpose of ten hour duty of the running staff so far as providing relief to them en-route is concerned.

Generally, the trips performed by running staff are within 10 hours from "signing on" to "signing off", save in exceptional circumstances of unavoidable operational exigencies or of accidents, floods, emergencies etc.

**Exchange of Students belonging to
Minority Communities with
Foreign Countries**

4371. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :
Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any programmes for exchange of students with foreign countries belonging to Minority Communities;

(b) if so, the number of students belonging to minority communities sent abroad under the exchange programmes during the past three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, student exchanges with foreign countries take place only under scholarships schemes included in bilateral cultural exchange programmes with those countries. Foreign countries recognise only merit, regardless of the community, in giving admission to students.

**Students' unrest in Aligarh Muslim
University**

4372. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :
Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the atmosphere of Aligarh Muslim University is not peaceful at present;

(b) if so, the cause of students' recent unrest in Aligarh Muslim University; and