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alternate jobs in other on going projects; and

Written Answers

(c) if so, details thereof and if not reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANAKA-RANAND): (a) to (c). To the extent possible, efforts are made to absorb the workers rendered surplus on projects. Those who cannot be so absorbed are given retrenchment compensation as admissible under the rules.

(Translation)

## Altotment of quota of wagons for slack coal

1424. SHRI NARSINH MAK-WANA: Will the Minister of RAIL-WAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the grounds on which the Railway Board allots the quota of wagons for slack coal;
- (b) the names of the States which have specially written to the Railway Board for increasing their quota of Railway wagons and reaction of Government in regard thereto; and
  - (c) the reasons for reduction in the scheduled quota of railway wagons for transportation fixed earlier and whether the Ministry is contemplating to restore this cut; and
    - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCHINDIA): (a) The quota of a consumer of slack coal depends on the priority, actual consumption during the previous years and the recommendation of the sponsor ing authority.

(b) Recently only Gujarat State has written about increase in the slack coal quota. Considering the availability of slack coal, transport capacity and demand from other higher priority sectors it has not been found feasible to increase the allocation for Gujarat State. Besides, the consumers in Gujarat have failed to file programes even upto the sanctioned quota in 1984.

(c) and (d). The quotas were reduced for the year 1984 to make them more realistic, keeping in view the actual availability of coal and transport. The quotas prior to 1984 were very much on the high side and resulted in curtailment at the time of actual allotment and supply of wagons. The Railways will revise the quotas when the availability of coal and transport exceeds the present quotas.

[English]

## Reserved Quota of Posts for SC/ST

- PROF. M.R. HALDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether all the Zonal Railways are not maintaining the reserved quota of posts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. candidates:
- if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (c) Zone-wise figures of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees vis-a-vis other employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Zonal Railways are maintaining the reserved quota of posts for SC/ST candidates as per extant orders subject to the restrictions that have been imposed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court/High Courts and also subject to the availability of eligible SC/ST candidates.

(c) A statement giving the latest available zone-wise figures of the SC<sub>2</sub>ST employees vis-a-vis other employees as on 31.3.1984 is laid on the Table of the House, [Placed in Library see No. LT-716/85]

## Speed restriction

- 1426. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOU-DHARY: Will the Minister of RAIL-WAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether speed restriction in the railways is being expanded;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and