

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a series of non-smoking coaches on long distance trains from the current year;

(b) if so, the details of trains in which such non-smoking coaches would be introduced;

(c) whether any experiment in this regard has been held; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). On some trains one second class coach has been earmarked for non-smokers on an experimental basis. Boards indicating smoking not allowed have been put up on these coaches and publicity about availability of this facility has been made. Further decision in this regard will be taken after review of the results of the experiment

#### **Demand for All India Judicial Services by All India Judges Association**

1804. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Judges Association has urged upon the Government to take steps to enact a legislation for setting up of a judicial service on an All India basis; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Streamlining management of major Railway Stations**

1805. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any measures are proposed to improve the efficiency of the management of major railway stations all over the country; and

(b) what steps have been taken, since the stampede in New Delhi Railway Station leading to deaths, to pay attention to this aspect so that such accidents do not recur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The improvement of efficiency in the management at railway stations is a continuous process.

(b) Railway has initiated action on widening of the stair cases, provision of an additional stair case and extension of one of the foot-over bridges at New Delhi Station. Change of nominated platforms for reception of trains is only being resorted to if inescapable and passengers are given adequate warning about this over the public address system. Entry to platforms at the stations of relatives and friends coming to see or receive passengers is being regulated. For increased surveillance by the police, there is a proposal for augmenting their strength. A master plan has been prepared to develop additional terminals at new locations in and around macro railway stations. Efforts are always made to cater for the changed pattern of traffic at stations from time to time.

[Translation]

#### **Unauthorised vendors in running trains**

1806. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of illegal food stuff vendors who vend their stuff in the superfast trains running between various stations; and

(b) the steps taken by Government against such vendors and other agencies responsible for this practice so far?

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

(b) The Zonal Railways conduct drives in this regard. During 1988-89, 38,057 unauthorised vendors were apprehended and 25,470 were prosecuted.

#### Unauthorised occupation of seats

1807. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that seats in trains are being unauthorisedly occupied by porters and local mischievous elements at Delhi and other big stations and then given to passengers after extracting money from them;

(b) whether Government have received complaints in this regard in Delhi; and

(c) if so, the total number of complaints received and the steps being taken by Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

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

(c) 6 complaints are received during April 1988 to June 1989 in Delhi against anti social elements only. Surprise checks are conducted in this regard. Porters and miscreants found indulging in this malpractice are prosecuted. The licences of licensed porters apprehended are also suspended or cancelled.

#### Smuggling of Gold and Silver

1808. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that silver and gold from foreign countries are being smuggled on large scale through sea;

(b) if so, the amount of the gold/silver seized from the smugglers during this year; and

(c) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantity and value of gold and silver seized by the Customs authorities during the current year upto 17th July, are given below.

	Quantity (in Kgs)	Value (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
Gold	5250	166.47
Silver	34222	22.84

(Figures are provisional)