

Machinery for Protecting interests of Inter-State Migrant Workers

2795. SHRI RAVINDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any machinery to protect the interests of inter-State migrant workers; and

(b) if so, the steps that have been taken since May, 1980 to protect such migrant workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) and (b). The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 will be enforced immediately after the Rules are finalised. In the Central sphere, the Central Industrial Relations Machinery will administer and implement this Act.

Absorption of coal and ash handling workers

2796. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to absorb all workers engaged in coal and ash handling; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No.

(b) Since the receipt of coal traffic in locosheds is not uniform on all days, the work of coal handling, cinder picking, ash-pit cleaning in locosheds is generally done by private contractors or Labour Contract Cooperative Societies. Also, the pattern of traction is undergoing rapid changes and the gauge conversion is in progress, with the result the points of transshipment/the location of steam sheds and the coal and ash handling requirements will be shifting and finally the steam

traction would be replaced by electric/diesel traction. Accordingly, the employment of departmental labour on such work has not been found suitable.

Central Railway Cashiers

2797. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DAN-DAVATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Railway Cashiers are required to halt at night at various stations where strong rooms are not provided nor are they offered with full-fledged rest house facilities either; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). No. Rest rooms have been constructed at big stations. At some important way-side stations, standard size strong rooms have been provided with all amenities like folding Counter-cum-bed table, chair and water tap and similar arrangements are being made at a few other important way-side stations. It has not been found feasible to provide lavatory in strong rooms as it would be unhygienic to do so. The staff can make use of the bath and lavatories available at the stations.

समस्तीपुर-दरभंगा लाइन

2798. श्रीमती दृष्णा साहू : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार राज्य में समस्तीपुर से दरभंगा तक एक बड़ी लाइन बिछाने के लिये एक प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसे कब तक पूरा कर लिया जायेगा ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) :
(क) जी हाँ ।