

U.K. Passport holders still waiting to enter British from India.

According to the First Report of the British House of Commons Select Committee on Race Relations & Immigration published on 13 March 1978, the British Home Office in a Memorandum submitted to the Committee on 24 February, 1977 stated, "There are thought to be not more than 38,000 (including dependents) remaining in East and Central Africa who are eligible under the Scheme" of (vouchers for the admission of UK passport holders).

However, according to a further memorandum by British Home Office quoted by the same Committee. "There are thought to be around 38,000 UK passport holders including dependents (who may be any nationality) still eligible to come to UK from India under the Special Vouchers Scheme but there is considerable uncertainty about this figure. It is not possible to give a useful estimate of the numbers who will seek to come here."

(b) The British Passport holders Association of India, Jamnagar and the India-Africa Solidarity League, Rajkot.

(c) While Government have refrained from taking up this issue with the British Government on the ground that it is entirely the latter's responsibility it is hoped that Britain will fulfil its obligations to the UK passport holders expeditiously.

Wages and Service Conditions of Indian Seamen

2843. SHRI M. M. LAWRENCE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forward Seamen's Union of India have submitted a ten point charter of demands regarding the wages and service conditions of Indian Seamen;

(b) if so, what are those demands; and

(c) whether Government have taken any steps in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) The Forward Seamen's Union of India, Calcutta have submitted a nine point charter of demands to the Secretary Shipowners' side. The National Maritime Board (India), Bombay.

(b) (1) Abolition of casual system of Employment and guaranteed employment for Indian Seamen throughout the year;

(2) Unemployment allowance from 'sign off' to 'sign on' at Rs. 700/- per month;

(3) 78 (Seventy Eight) Sterling Pound per month ILO Minimum Basic Wages;

(4) Abolition of all Anti-Seamen clauses of (i) Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (44 of 1958) (ii) Indian Merchant Shipping Act (Seamen's Employment Office, Calcutta/Bombay) Rules 1954, (iii) Indian Merchant Shipping (Seamen's Medical Examination) Rules, 1951, (iv) The Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966 (4 of 1966), (v) Indian Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 1960 and (vi) Rules for 'Unemployment Relief to Foreign-Going Indian Seamen';

(5) Abolition of Dual Medical Examination and Resumption of Family Medical Assistance;

(6) Tonnagewise Manning Scale;

(7) Recognition of Union through 'SECRET BALLOT'.

(8) Introduction of 'Yearly Wage Increment' 20 per cent Bonus for all; and

(9) Nationalisation of Shipping Industry, complete eradication of various other nefarious, anti-seamen acti-

vities of monopoly Indian and British shipowners and their jackies and more power to the State Government to be given to deal all economic affairs/disputes of Indian Seamen.

(c) The Memorandum of charter of Demands is addressed by the Forward Seamen's Union of India to the Secretariat of the National Maritime Board (India). NMB is a bipartite body of the recognised Unions of Seafarers. Forward Seamen's Union is not a recognised Union. It is, therefore, not a constituent of the NMB. NMB therefore considered the demands put forward by the NUSI, Bombay/Calcutta and final agreement was reached on 3rd March 1980. It is understood that no cognisance was taken by the NMB of the Demands forwarded by FSUI.

Funds for Improving Roads in Andhra Pradesh

2844. SHRI KUSHMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Andhra Pradesh Government for more funds for improving roads in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) how far Government have responded in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) and (b). A reference has very recently been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding certain developmental aspects of National Highways in the State and for increasing the allocation for this purpose. This has been noted and all possible efforts will be made to meet the requirements in this regard subject to admissibility and availability of resources.

अहमदाबाद और भारवाड़ के बीच एक प्रतिदिन रेलगाड़ी चलाई जाना

2845. श्री मूलचन्द डागा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार गरीबों के दिनों में भारी भीड़-भाड़ को देखते हुए अहमदाबाद और भारवाड़ जंक्शन के बीच एक प्रतिदिन रेलगाड़ी चलाने का है; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) :

(क) और (ख) : मिछने बंद अहमदाबाद भारवाड़ स्पेशल गाड़ियों में अपभारित कम यात्रियों द्वारा यात्रा किये जाने तथा अनवाये माल यातायात का बहुत संचलन सुनिश्चित करने का दृष्टि से यद्यपि इन गाँवों के दौरान अहमदाबाद और भारवाड़ के बीच अलग से कोई प्रीम कालोन स्पेशल गाड़ी नहीं चलाई जा रही है, फिर भी अहमदाबाद-आबूराड और अहमदाबाद दिल्ली के बीच स्पेशल गाड़ियाँ चलाई गयी थी जिनमें अहमदाबाद-भारवाड़ के यात्रियों की भी सेवा हुई थी।

Improvement of the Punctuality of Delhi-Palwal-Delhi Shuttle Trains

2846. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of punctuality of 365 Dn., 367 Dn., 379Dn., 368 Up, 374 Up, Delhi-Palwal-Delhi Shuttle trains;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the punctuality of these trains;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of office going passengers of suburban areas are affected by their late running;

(d) the number of complaints received during this year regarding the late running and the action taken thereon, and

(e) what proposals are under consideration to maintain punctuality in the near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (e). The punctuality percentage of 365 Dn., 367 Dn., 379 Dn, 368 Up and 374 Up,