

Replacement of Coaches of Kerala Bound Trains

7953. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that old and dilapidated coaches are attached to Kerala bound trains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to replace old and dilapidated bogies from trains to Kerala?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Coaches are condemned on age cum condition basis and replaced. It is, however, ensured that only those coaches which fully comply with the safety and passenger amenity standard are retained in service.

Regularisation of Casual Workers of Instrumentation Ltd. Kota In Bokaro

7954. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of casual workers working in Bokaro under Instrumentation Ltd. (Kota) for more than 260 days facts in details giving the period of their service;

(b) whether they are getting different wage and amenities from the permanent workers while doing the same job violating the provision of the Industrial Dispute Acts constituting usual labour practice;

(c) whether the workers kept as casual for year, are agitating for becoming permanent, as per law; and

(d) if so, the facts in details and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Instrumentation Ltd., Kota has, at present, 172 temporary workers having more than 260 days on the roll of its Bokaro site office. The period of their services range from 7 years and above.

(b) They are paid all benefits and privileges as per the tripartite settlement entered into in 1987.

(c) and (d). Taking into consideration the demand of the workers, the company has offered regular pay scales to 100 workers, amongst those who had applied and balance have been given temporary status. Even after availing the benefits under the settlement, majority of the workers have filed writ petitions which have been admitted by the Patna High Court.

Computerisation of Passenger Reservations in Punjab

7955. SHRI KRIPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to provide computerised passenger reservations in Jalandhar, Ludhiana and other big cities of Punjab

(b) if so, when and the places where it is proposed to be provided; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) So, far, passenger Reservation System have been computerised only in