

officials for entry, search and seizure in cases where unauthorised diversion takes place; and

(x) Introduction of Domestic Gas Consumer Cards in a phased manner.

[English]

Reservations of SC/ST in Railways

1106. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total backlog of the reserved posts meant for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as on date, cadre-wise and zone-wise in Indian Railways;

(b) the reasons therefor?

(c) whether any action plan to wipe out

the backlog especially in higher cadre of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been prepared; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Railway Employees

1107. SHRI A. VJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the MINISTER OF RAILWAYS be pleased to state the total number of employees in Railways, Zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): The total number of employees in Railways, Zone-wise, as on 31.3.89, is as under:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Zone</i>	<i>Number of employees</i>
1.	Central	218, 085
2.	Estern	226, 442
3	Northen	229, 636
4.	North Eastern	107, 614
5.	Northeast Frontier	84, 226
6.	Southern	144, 219
7.	South Central	129,289
8.	South Eastern	209, 928
9.	Western	209,261
	Total	1,558,693