

7. Progressive vestibuling of important Mail and Express trains.
8. To Improve cleanliness of bathrooms, high pressure water jets at terminals and enroute.
9. Provision of Mobile train cleaning staff on selected trains.

Reinstatement of Railway Employees Dismissed in 1980-81

226. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of employees of Loco running staff were dismissed during 1980 and 1981;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to reinstate such employees in railway service; and

(d) if so, by what time?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). About 611 loco running staff were dismissed/removed from service under Rule 14(ii) of the Railway Servants (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, which corresponds to clause (b) of the second proviso to Article 311(2) of the Constitution. Such action was taken in connection with the mass agitation launched by the Loco Running Staff Association in the early part of 1981, in which about 13,000 running staff took part. While taking action under Rule 14(ii) it is not necessary to follow normal disciplinary procedure. The action taken against these loco staff has been upheld by a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in July 1985.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal to reinstate these employees excepting as a result of appeals/revision petitions made by individual employees or as per Courts' final

orders.

[English]

Air Taxi Service

227. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to authorise some private parties to operate air taxi service;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the non-resident Indians among them;

(c) whether Government have received any representation to remove obstacles in conducting this service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these would be removed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A revised scheme for Air Taxi operation was approved and become operational in October, 1989.

(b) So far eight parties have been given a clearance in principle. They are:

- (1) M/s Delhi Gulf Airways Services Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
- (2) M/s Asia Funds Ltd., New Delhi.
- (3) M/s Dalmia Resorts International Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
- (4) M/s Capt. Priyadarshan Pandey, Denmark.
- (5) M/s Air Asiatic Ltd., Madras.
- (6) M/s Maneckji Aviation Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.
- (7) M/s India International Airways Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.