

(c) the number of employees rendered surplus due to this closure and alternative arrangements made for their absorption;

(d) whether in spite of the instructions of the Railway Board, many employees have not been absorbed so far; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government to ensure protection to the services and wages of these employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Metre Gauge steam loco-shed at Charbagh (Lucknow) is no longer required on account of conversion of Lucknow-Kanpur & Sitapur-Burhwal metre gauge section into broad gauge and also due to dieselisation of train services in the area.

(c) and (d) 367 staff were rendered surplus. Orders have been issued for redeployment of 317 staff. Redeployment of the remaining staff is in process. No staff have been retrenched/discharged.

(e) Redeployment done as per extant rules ensures protection of their service and wages.

II Class Coaches

813. SHRI SURENDRA PAL
PATHAK :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHRY:
Will the MINISTER OF RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of railway coaches is far less in propor-

tion to the number of Passengers travelling by II Class;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of II Class coaches with a view to provide better facilities to passengers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS :
(SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) A constant watch is kept so as to augment the different classes of accommodation to the extent feasible. Recently 72 trains have been provided additional II Class unreserved coaches.

Plantation of Fruit Trees

815. SHRI VILASRAO
NAGNATHRAO GUNDE-
WAR :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether trees are planted by the Government on road sides on vacant land and green belts and watchmen and gardeners are appointed for the protection of these plants;

(b) whether Government propose to plant fruit bearing trees under this scheme where gardeners and watchmen have already been appointed;

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to plant