

[English]

**Closing down of Steam Loco Shed at
Katras in Eastern Railway**

3181. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the steam Loco Shed at Katras in the Eastern Railway, Dhanbad has been closed recently terminating the job of 55 ash handling contractual workers, if so, the facts thereof;

(b) whether this step was taken in violation of the order of the Supreme Court in the civil miscellaneous petition No. 10984 of 1986 forbidding termination of job of Coal Ash handling Workers; if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether there was a demonstration of the workers before the Divisional Railway Manager and a memorandum was submitted to him against this steps on 2.7.1986; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The steam loco shed at Katrasgarh was closed on 30.6.1986. The currency of the coal and ash handling contract for this shed expired the same day. According to the information available, the contractor has dispensed with the services of the 36 labourers who were engaged by him prior to the expiry of the contract.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The representationists were informed that as per policy of the Ministry, modernisation of traction is being undertaken by phasing out of steam locomotives. With the phasing out of steam locomotives, the closure of steam sheds is inevitable and coal and ash handling contracts in these sheds would accordingly no longer be required.

[Translation]

Training of Railway Officers

3182. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the staff training college imparts training to all categories of railway officers;

(b) whether the same facilities for training exist at training schools at Udaipur, etc.; and

(c) if not, the reasons for sending 'B' Class officers to Udaipur schools for training ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir; Substantially the same facilities exist.

(c) Does not arise.

**Allotment of Flats to Widows of Railway
Employees**

3183. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who have been allotted houses on out of turn basis by Railway Ministry/Minister by over-riding priority during the last five years, and the basis thereof;

(b) the number of the widows who have applied for out of turn allotment of flats during the said period;

(c) the number of the widows out of them who have been allotted flats and the number of widows who have not been allotted flats so far;

(d) the reasons for not allotting flats on out of turn basis to these widows;

(e) whether Government propose to allot flats to these widows also; and

(f) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?