

**Recruitment of Casual Labour**

8707. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways propose to empanel the casual labour working on the Railways in order to recruit them as regular employees as and when required;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to give preference to casual labour in recruitment against regular posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). Virtually all vacancies in Group 'D', barring certain exceptions, are at present, being filled by absorption of casual labourers/substitutes after screening. Absorption is, however, subject to factors like availability of vacancies and eligibility and suitability of individual casual labourer for regular employment.

(c) Does not arise.

**Alleged Irregularities in National Institute of Homoeopathy**

8708. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 9 March, 1988 regarding alleged irregularities in the National Institute of Homoeopathy;

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto and whether an enquiry has been made into the working of the institute; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The comments of the Director, National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta on the allegations contained in the newspaper report, have been received and are under examination.

[Translation]

**Running time of 173 up Himgiri Express Between Howrah and Patna**

†8709. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRIMATI GEETA  
MUKHRJEE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether earlier 173 Up. Himgiri Express used to leave Howrah at 5.45 A.M. and reach Patna at 12.35 P.m.;

(b) whether at present it leaves Howrah at 11 P.M., and reaches Patna junction at 10.15 A.M.;

(c) whether this train also stops at present at those stations on which it used to stop earlier.

(d) if so, the reasons for taking 4.35 hours more by this train in reaching Patna;

(e) whether Government propose to reduce the running time of this train or restore the earlier timings; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir.

(d) Operation requirements.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) At present not feasible due to operational constraints.