

Use of Saloon

7288 SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to abolish the use of Saloons, luxury cars and ACC by high railway officials and VIPs to effect economy and austerity in the country, and

(b) if not the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) (a) and (b) Instructions have been issued only to use the Inspection Carriages which are generally referred to as saloons, for functional purposes and to places where suitable accommodation is not available. It has been decided not to manufacture inspection carriages on additional account. Therefore, the existing numbers will not increase any further but may gradually come down when some old unserviceable stock are condemned without replacement.

Minimum cancellation fee per person

A C Class	1st Class/ 2 tier A C/ A C Chair Car	2nd Class
Rs	Rs	Rs
36	18	6

Refund of Fare for Unused Tickets

7289 SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether any refund of fare is allowed to passengers and students with escorts who miss the train for any reason on return of unused tickets after the departure of the train,

(b) if so, to what extent, and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) (a) and (b) Yes the Station Masters are authorised to grant refund on unused tickets surrendered for cancellation within 3 hours after the departure of the train in the case of unreserved/wait-listed passengers and 12 hours after the departure of the train in the case of reserved passengers. A clerks charge of 50 paise per ticket is levied on unreserved tickets. In the case of reserved passengers, a cancellation fee of 30 per cent of the fare subject to the following minimum and maximum as levied —

Maximum cancellation fee per person

A C Class	1st Class/ 2 tier A C/ A C Chair Car	2nd Class
Rs.	Rs	Rs
72	36	18

(c) Does not arise

Posts of Extension/Health Educators

7290 DR BIJOY MONDAL Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) is it a fact that the vacant posts of Extension/Health educators are filled by Matriculate Health Inspec-

tors ignoring qualified and experienced Field workers of the same branch, and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) (a) and