

compartment of Bombay Mail in which he was travelling. One of them started auctioning ready-made garments. He came to the complainant and forcibly took away Rs. 135 from him and threw one pant at him. He also threatened the complainant not to report to anyone.

(b) The Minister of Railways has been in touch with the Chief Ministers of affected States viz., Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and has urged them to take effective preventive measures to ensure safety of passengers and their properties.

On 16-6-78 a high level meeting between the officers of the Ministries of Railways and Home Affairs was held and it was decided (1) that State Governments of U.P., Bihar, M.P., West Bengal and Maharashtra will launch vigorous drive against such crime by increasing the strength of the armed escorts; (2) to ensure prompt communication to the armed police escort whenever the alarm chain is pulled at night; (3) to accommodate the armed police escorts in the centre of the train so that apprehending danger, they can break into two groups and get down on either side of the train to apprehend the criminals; (4) to provide the police escorts with powerful torches/very light pistols and flares; (5) providing powerful lights with Guard and Brakesman to light up the area on both sides of the train.

Armed Railway Protection Force escorts are being provided on selected trains running in vulnerable sections at night to protect railway property. This would also help to instil confidence amongst the travelling public also deter criminals from operating on trains. Over 1000 armed Railway Protection Force personnel are on escort duty on different Railways from the first week of July, 1978.

Zonal Railways have launched a drive to ensure strict adherence to

the following preventive measures in the coaches to ensure safety of the passengers and their belongings:—

(a) Vestibuled doors are kept locked between 22.00 hrs. and 06.00 hrs. by the TTEs/Coach Attendants.

(b) TTEs and Coach Attendants remain vigilant during night time and prevent entry of intruders, hawkers and unauthorised persons into the coaches.

(c) In case of non-vestibuled trains the vestibuled doors are permanently closed for dummied.

(c) No.

(d) The case has not yet been registered by Government Railway Police. Details of *modus operandi* will be known only after the investigation of the case by Police.

अहमदाबाद से बम्बई तक नई गाड़ी का खताया जाना

1335. श्री छोट्टुपार्ई गामित : क्या रेल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या प्रातः 10.30 बजे से सायं 5.45 बजे के बीच अहमदाबाद से बम्बई तक की कोई गाड़ी नहीं है;

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार उक्त समयों के बीच नई रेलगाड़ी चलाने का है और तत्सम्बन्धी व्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो प्रातः 10.30 बजे से सायं 5.45 बजे तक अहमदाबाद से बम्बई जाने के इच्छुक यात्रियों के लिये क्या व्यवस्था करने का विचार है और उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री शिव नारायण) : (क) से (ग) वीरमगाम-बम्बई सेंट्रल सवारी गाड़ी 12.05 बजे अहमदाबाद से बम्बई सेंट्रल के लिए छूटती है। अहमदाबाद और बम्बई के बीच एक अतिरिक्त गाड़ी

चलाना परिचालनिक दृष्टि से सम्भव नहीं है, क्योंकि अहमदाबाद और बम्बई सेंट्रल में पर्यन्त सुविधाओं का अभाव है और मागवर्ती खण्डों पर लाइन क्षमता पर अत्यधिक दबाव है।

Right to vote by Indian Citizens living Abroad

1336. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian citizens living abroad cannot vote in elections to State Legislatures in India; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Indian citizens living abroad except persons who are employed under the Government of India, in posts outside India, are not eligible to vote in elections to Parliament and State Legislatures in India.

(b) Under section 19 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, one of the conditions of registration as a voter is that the person concerned shall be "ordinarily resident" in the constituency from which he seeks registration. Indian citizens living abroad on their own volition and not in the interests of public service can hardly be considered as "ordinarily resident" in India for the purpose of voting rights at elections to Parliament and State Legislatures.

Manufacture of Doxy-cycline

1337. SHRI S. S. SOMANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the application of M/s Pfizer for the manufacture of Doxy-cycline has been treated as closed; and

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(b) whether it is also a fact that political and other pressure is being brought on Government for agreeing to this proposal and if so, details of representations received for and against the proposal of M/s Pfizers?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) M/s Pfizers have been informed by the Department of Chemicals & Fertilizers that it is not possible to approve their application for the manufacture of Doxy-cycline.

(b) No, Sir.

Overcrowding of Trains on Certain Sections

1338. S. S. SOMANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a lot of overcrowding of certain popular trains over certain sections:

(b) whether any detailed study has been made in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that tickets are issued subject to availability of accommodation in the trains and persons unable to find accommodation can surrender their tickets at the stations; and

(d) if so, what is the refundable amount in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). A large number of fast long distance and intercity trains have been introduced, extended and dieselised on important busy trunk routes, augmenting the train accommodation. As a result of these measures, position of overcrowding has generally eased. During rush periods, however, e.g. Summer, Puja Holidays, Dussehra/Diwali etc., there is heavy passengers traffic from Metropolitan cities and other important points. Special arrangements are made for movement