

(b) Because of different working conditions on different Zonal Railways, comparable yard-sticks cannot be furnished. Efforts to evolve uniform yard-sticks are being made as stated in part (a) above.

Congestion in Bombay Port

1278. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE, ALLURI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps which Government propose to take to remove congestion in the Bombay Port; and

(b) by what time the situation will be normalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) An Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee constituted by the Government reviews the flow of traffic in respect of bulk commodities like fertilizers, cement, edible oils etc. at regular intervals with a view to distribute cargo properly among different Major Ports including Bombay. Action is also being taken to develop the facilities at Bombay Port.

(b) The situation at Bombay has been normal for some time past.

Resolutions adopted by West Bengal Assembly

1279. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the West Bengal Assembly unanimously adopted on 21 April, 1980 two resolutions demanding immediate laying of double tracks between Sheoraphuli and Tarakeshwar, extension of lines up to Bishnupur in Bankura via Arambagh and laying of double tracks between Krishnanagar and Lalgola and electrification of the section;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the resolution further demanded extension of the Andal-Suri-Sainthia line up to Karimpur in Nadia via Kandi-Berhampore-Jalangi in Murshidabad district; and

(c) if so, reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Quota for Pilgrimage of Iraq

1280. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KOCHACK:

SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir has requested the Central Government to fix annual quota of 500 pilgrims to the celebrated muslim shrine in Iraq;

(b) if so, whether the quota of pilgrims from the State has been increased; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). As against a quota of 2,000 pilgrims from India fixed for (1977 and 1978, the number of pilgrims who visited Iraq was 90 and 21 respectively. During 1979, against the fixed quota of 1,250 only 367 persons went on pilgrimage to Iraq. It would be seen that the quota has never been utilised fully and therefore, there is no need to fix a separate quota in respect of Jammu and Kashmir State. As and when the demand for seats increases suitably, the question of fixing a quota for Jammu and Kashmir will be considered.