

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The running of suburban train services on sealdah division has been affected primarily due to miscreant activities, thefts and limited availability of spares etc. The Railways on their part do proper planning and effective coordination in the working of the different departments so as to provide satisfactory service to passengers. For the convenience of passengers on Sealdah division, Railways have introduced 10 rakes of 9 coach composition out of 46 EMU rakes which are plying on the division. To provide further relief, more rakes of eight coach composition would be converted into 9 coach composition i.e. as and when more EMU coaches become available.

Indians held in Chinese Prison

5379. SHRI R. L. BHATIA:

KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of Indian detenus at present held in the Chinese prisons;

(b) whether this matter was raised during the discussions which the Foreign Secretary recently held with the Chinese Government in Peking; if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, when Government propose to discuss it with Chinese Government and ensure the early repatriation of the Indian detenus from the Chinese prisons where they are languishing since long?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Government have no reliable information to indicate that there are any Indian detenus held in Chinese prisons at present.

(b) and (c) While this matter was not raised specifically during the discussions which the Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Eric Gonsalves, held recently with Chinese officials in Peking, both before and after this visit, the matter has been taken up with the Chinese Embassy

in New Delhi. The response of the Chinese Government was to maintain that no Indians were held in custody in China. The Government of India have recently repeated its request to the Chinese Government to make further investigations about the presence of Indian nationals in China.

Research on safe brake system

5380. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many engineers are doing research for evolving a safe and fault-free brake system for Indian Railway; and

(b) whether Government propose to lay a statement giving an account of such research done, if any, and the results thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Eight Engineers assisted by some technical staff are engaged in design development, test, trial and research on brake system and specific application of brake system to new designs of Rolling Stock in the Research Designs and Standards Organisation at Lucknow.

(b) No.

श्रद्धानन्द बाजार में परिवहन कम्पनियों द्वारा सड़कों को गोदामों के रूप में प्रयोग किया जाना

5381. श्री चन्द्रपाल शैलानी :

क्या परिवहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि परिवहन कम्पनियां श्रद्धानन्द बाजार, दिल्ली में सड़कों को अपने गोदामों के रूप में प्रयोग कर रही हैं जिसके फलस्वरूप यातायात के चलाने में कई घण्टों की रुकावट हो जाती है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार द्वारा उनके लिए एक ट्रांसपोर्ट नगर बनाया गया था ;