

Cars, Trucks and Buses of Port Authority at Haldia

2127. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cars, trucks and buses of the Port Authority at Haldia base are lying idle for petty repairs for many months;

(b) whether the mechanical shop existing at Haldia is also not working properly;

(c) whether the Port Authority is hiring cars, buses and trucks from private companies to do jobs; and

(d) if so, what amount has been paid to these private parties during the last six months ending on 31-5-80?

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

(a) Out of 38 motor vehicles at Haldia Dock, 20 are on roads, 14 are under minor repairs and four are lying idle, requiring major repairs.

(b) No, the mechanical workshop at Haldia is working to its capacity.

(c) Yes

(d) Rs. 7.78 lakhs.

Representation from Labour Member of Calcutta Dock Labour Board

2128. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation from the labour members of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board against restoration of administrative body at Calcutta Dock Labour Board;

(b) if so, what are the main points of objection; and

(c) what Government propose to do in the matter?

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

(a) and (b). Government have received representation from four labour members of Calcutta Dock Labour Board and also from some other unions protesting against proposal to restore the Administrative Body of Stevedores in Calcutta Dock Labour Board on the ground that the Administrative Body had earlier indulged in lot of malpractices and industrial peace in Calcutta port might be disturbed if the Body is restored.

(c) Government is examining the matter, taking into account the views of all interests concerned and also the position prevailing at other Dock Labour Boards.

Travelling on Roof of a Train

2129. SHRI SUBODH SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a good number of passengers move on the roof of trains;

(b) if so, to what extent this is caused due to lack of accommodation in regular seats; and

(c) whether there have been cases of accidents due to this?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) No such record is maintained. However, from observations, it has been noticed that some passengers indulge in roof riding either as a matter of habit or in a spirit of bravado even when accommodation is available inside the compartments. Instances of roof travel sometimes also occur because of extraordinary rush of traffic such as during holidays, melas, fairs, etc, despite strengthening of trains and running of special

trains. Ticketless travellers, vendors, etc. also travel on the roof of the train to avoid detection.

(c) Yes.

Steamer Watchman at Calcutta Port

2130. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal or scheme to set up a pool for the steamer watchmen at Calcutta port; and

(b) if so, what will be the conditions of services and employment of such watchmen?

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

(a) and (b). A private pool of watchmen for work on ships at Calcutta port is proposed to be set up. A Committee consisting of the representatives of shipping companies, unions of watchmen and Calcutta port Trust is scrutinising cases of individual watchmen to be included in the private pool. After the strength of watchmen to be included in the pool is determined, the representatives of shipping companies will hold discussions with unions for settling conditions of service and employment of watchmen in the pool.

Timber Merchants of Midnapur District

2131. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the timber merchants of West Bengal,

particularly of Midnapur District are facing serious difficulty in securing wagons;

(b) whether Government are aware that a large number of Adivasi and Harijan workers are out of job due to this as well as the trade is in deep crisis;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to give some immediate relief to the trade so as to save it from a total collapse; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed in this regard?

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

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Re-employment of Casual Workers

2132. SHRI SATYA GOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration to re-employ the retrenched workers of the Panskura-Haldia (South Eastern Railway) section in the Howrah-Amta-Champadanga construction under South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) to (c). The