

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