

taps missing from platforms and bath rooms, dirty conditions in waitinghalls/ waiting rooms, non-supply of linens in retiring rooms, lack of cleanliness, inadequacy of booking windows, broken furniture in waiting rooms/retiring rooms, raising of low level platforms, extension of platform cover, provision of additional booking counters, display of reservation charts, provision of hand pipes, resurfacing of platforms etc.

The teams got minor defects/deficiencies remedied on the spot. For those which could not be remedied immediately, the Railway Administrations have been asked to initiate action. The major works will be done on a programmed basis subject to availability of resources. The inspections are still continuing.

#### Improvement in the movement of goods by Railways

2476. SHRI B. V. DESAI :  
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL  
REDDY :  
SHRI RAM VILAS  
PASWAN :  
SHRI JAGPAL SINGH :  
SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :  
SHRI V. KISHORE  
CHANDRA S. DEO :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by what time the Railways will fully meet the demand of wagons and improve its movement of goods; and

(b) what are the other steps being taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) The performance of the Railways does not entirely depend on its own efficiency only but is also dependent upon the general level of efficiency in other related sectors and the economic situation in the country, law and order situation, etc. Under normal working conditions, Railways do not anticipate difficulty in meeting the day-to-day demands. The performance has improved in the month of November 1980 as 600 wagons per day more are being loaded as compared to corresponding period of the last year.

(b) Efforts are being made to improve the performance by closely monitoring the movement on day-to-day basis at the Railways as well as Railway Board's level. Co-ordination is also being maintained with different agencies to improve the wagon turn-round. The help of

State Governments is also being sought to improve the law and order situation. Staff agitations are being dealt with suitably. Apart from procuring additional wagons to supplement the present holding of wagons, action is being taken to reduce the number of sick wagons by giving the highest priority to their repairs.

#### Chinese Foreign Minister's visit to India

2477. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from China in regard to Foreign Minister of China's visit to India;

(b) if so, whether any fresh date has been communicated;

(c) whether the Chinese of late are not interested in improving the relations with India;

(d) if so, whether the Chinese are supplying arms and ammunition to Pakistan which will be used by them against India; and

(e) if so, whether any protest has been lodged with China in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Recent press interviews given by Chinese leaders to Indian press reporters do not seem to indicate such a trend.

(d) Government have seen press reports to this effect.

(e) Government of India's opposition to the supply of arms to Pakistan is well-known to the Chinese. The response of the Chinese Government has been that their assistance to Pakistan is not directed against India and that they hope that both India and Pakistan and India-China relations would improve.

#### INDO US Bilateral Talks

2478. SHRI B.V. DESAI :  
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA :  
SHEKHRA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether bilateral talks between India and U.S.A. were held in October this year ;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the decisions arrived at;