

4-Wheeler Wagons

3520. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed an escalation of 43.6 per cent in the price of 4-Wheeler wagons excluding the free supply items by the Railways like wheelsets and axle;

(b) whether it is a fact that the wagon industry had demanded an increase of 35 per cent in price earlier which was not granted;

(c) how much extra public money is being spent for acquiring the wagons; and

(d) the total number of 4-wheeler wagons for which order has been placed with the private and public sectors, separately?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The Ministry of Railways placed wagons orders in October, 1980, which took into account the escalations in the intervening period and other factors since the placement of previous orders; the extent of price increase allowed in October 1980 orders with base date 1-4-1980 with respect to earlier orders with base date 1-3-1978 varies from 43 per cent to 54 per cent depending upon the type of wagon.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Orders for 10,063 wagons in terms of 4-wheelers have been placed on the Public Sector Units and for 17,489 wagons in terms of 4-wheelers on Private Sector Units.

Chinese Run Espionage Centre in Poonch

3521. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a Chinese-run espionage cen-

tre is situated on the outskirts of Poonch, in Pakistan occupied Kashmir and it is operating closely with Pakistan intelligence outfits;

(b) whether this centre is suspected of having played considerable role in the unrest in Kashmir;

(c) whether the Chinese troops are also present with a missile unit in the Gilgit area of occupied Kashmir and rebels from Afghanistan are being trained in the area; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (c). Government have seen press reports to this effect.

(d) Government have no confirmation about these reports and have also noted denials issued by the Governments of Pakistan and China. Government remain vigilant and if any confirmation of these reports is received, the fact that we view with grave concern any military activity in a territory which is an integral part of India will be made known appropriately.

Number of Indian Doctors Abroad

3522. DR. GOLAM YAZDANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Indian doctors are abroad at present; and

(b) the steps which Government contemplate to take so that more doctors may be sent to Middle East countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) No precise total figures are available. However, 3912 doctors have been selected from 1973 to November 1980 for assignments abroad on bilateral contract basis for deputation to developing countries. No record is available about the number of doc-