

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). A section of the reservation staff of New Delhi Station went on lightening strike on the 27th August, 1980 for few hours to show their resentment against the arrest of the Chief Reservation Supervisor by the Central Bureau of Investigation. The Chief Reservation Supervisor was later released on bail.

Measures to check Cigarette Smoking

404. SHRI CHANDRABHAN ATHARE PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to take any measures for effectively checking cigarette smoking apart from the statutory warning on cigarette packets that 'smoking is injurious to health'; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes

(b) 1. In order to provide certain restrictions in relation to trade and commerce in and production, supply and distribution of cigarettes, the Government of India has enacted a legislation namely "The Cigarettes (Regulation of production, supply and distribution) Act, 1975" which is in force with effect from 1-4-1976. The Act was forwarded to the State Governments in the year 1977 for implementation of its various provisions.

2. Several states have passed laws prohibiting juvenile smoking and smoking in public places like cinema halls, buses etc.

3. Mass publicity campaign on the hazards of smoking have been undertaken through publication and mass media by Central Health Education Bureau. Films on the subject have been prepared and they are being shown in cinema halls. Four scripts on smoking and health hazards have been sent out by C.H.E.B., to all the

stations of All India Radio and T.V. Centres.

4. The Central Health Education Bureau has developed health education syllabus which includes the topic related to hazards of smoking and its bad effects on health for students of Classes IX and X under the Central Board of Secondary Education.

5. In order to ensure uniform standards of material being prescribed in the text books all over the country the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have suggested to the Ministry of Education that a chapter on "Harmful Effects of Smoking" may be prepared by N.C.E.R.T. in consultation with the Central Health Education Bureau, which after approval may be recommended to the various states/ Union Territories for inclusion in the school level text books.

6. Tax burden on production and sale of cigarettes has been increased to make smoking more prohibitive.

7. The All India Radio and Door Darshan have taken a decision not to accept advertisements regarding cigarettes and other tobacco products in their commercial services.

8. Indian Airlines have extended the "No smoking areas" in the various aircrafts and have stopped the permissive announcement "You may smoke, if you wish".

Railway Labour Tribunal Award

405. SHRI SURAJ BHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Labour Tribunal Award has been accepted by the Ministry of Railways and its implementation has also been ordered;

(b) whether it is also a fact that additional staff required for this purpose has not so far been provided at most of the places including Delhi Division of Northern Railway;

(c) If so, whether it is not affecting the efficient working of the Railways; and

(d) when the Government propose to make good this shortage of staff?

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

(b) No. In December, 1977 the Ministry of Railways gave clearance to all the Indian Railways including the Northern Railway for creation of 10,012 additional posts of staff in group 'C' and 'D' for the purpose of implementing the various recommendations made by the Railway Labour Tribunal 1969 relating to hours of employment of Railway employees. Nearly 85 per cent of these posts have already been filled up.

(c) No.

(d) Action is in progress for providing as early as possible the additional staff still required at certain places.

Purchasing a second passenger vessel from abroad for Andamans

406. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andaman-mainland passenger service is far from satisfactory for want of replacement of m.v. ANDAMANS and the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has sought permission to purchase immediately a second passenger vessel from abroad; and

(b) if so, what action Government has taken to push through the said proposal for improvement of the mainland-Andaman passenger service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Andaman/Mainland

passenger service is quite satisfactory. The operational life of m. v. Andamans has recently been extended by special survey of this vessel, upto May, 1982 and the vessel is performing well. A proposal for procurement of a second-hand passenger vessel to replace M.V. Andamans has been received from the Andaman Administration. That Administration have been asked to arrange for necessary funds for the purchase of the said vessel so that investment decision can be taken by the Government.

Service to Sportsmen in Railways

407. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether students and youngmen who have been sportsmen during their student days with certificates are given service in the Railways;

(b) if so, the rules thereof;

(c) whether the Northern Railway has encouraged young boys and men to keep the practice and appear for test;

(d) whether such a test was carried on in Delhi on the 10th February, 1980;

(e) if so, number of those appeared for test and those who qualified in the test;

(f) whether those qualified were taken to Lucknow for race on the 10th August, 1980; and

(g) if so, their number and the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Verification of Service Record

408. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases relating to non-medical Class I and II Officers