

all levels and over 2,000 RPF personnel have been deployed to assist the Government Railway Police in escorting passenger trains.

2. Vestibuled doors of coaches are closed between 22.00 hrs. and 06.00 hrs.

3. TTEs/Attendants / Conductors have been instructed to remain vigilant to prevent entry of unauthorised persons into reserved compartments.

4. The problem of crimes on Railways has been highlighted in the periodical meetings with the State Government officials and it has also been projected at the highest level, impressing upon the State Governments the need to strengthen the security arrangements in trains.

5. The strength of Government Railway Police is being augmented.

Bedi-Port—Porbander Line

10095. SHRI D. S. JADEJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the conversion of Bedi Port-Sikka-Salaga-Okha and Porbander rail line into broad gauge;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been done; and

(c) what is the progress for the conversion of the proposed line?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Conversion of Hapa-Sikka-Okha/Porbander MG line into BG forms part of the approved project for conversion of Viramgam-Okha/Porbander MG

section. Conversion from Viramgam-Hapa with a goods spur to windmill to serve Bedi Port (268 kms.) has been completed and this section has been opened to traffic from 17-6-1980. Work is in progress on the second phase from Hapa-Jamnagar to Okha and from Sikka to Porbandar *via* Kanalus. There is no proposal for the conversion of Khambalia-Salaya MG section into BG.

Catering Contractors

10096. SHRI A. G. SUBBU-RAMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Catering contractors are not paying regularly Licence fees, water and electric charges;

(b) if so, the total amount due from such contractors;

(c) whether all the above amounts are in realisable position and if not, how much amount is due from Ex-licensees and what action is proposed to be taken to realise the same;

(d) the total amount so far written off by the Railway Administration unrealisable from the Ex-licensees and the action proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of Railways from such losses;

(e) whether it is a fact that in Southern Railway in the case of a Solitary Licensee, who is also a longstanding licensee, termination notice had been issued for default in payment of dues and if so, what are the dues; and

(f) whether similar deterrent action would be taken in respect of other erring licensees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Introduction of fast trains between Howrah-Kiul and Howrah-Dhanbad

10097. **SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to inadequate train facilities in Asansol-Raniganj-Andal-Durgapur-Burdwan area passengers are travelling in most inhuman condition for several years;

(b) if so, considering the difficulties of the passengers of this area, whether Government propose to introduce two fast trains from Howrah to Kiul and Howrah to Dhanbad;

(c) if so, from when; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Asansol-Burdwan section is served by 28 pairs of trains including 10 pairs of passenger trains. These services have been found to be adequate.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Apart from traffic justification, introduction of additional service is not operationally feasible for want or requisite terminal facilities at Howrah and Dhanbad.

Posts of Superintendents

10098. **DR. A. U. AZMI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in some Divisions of the Northern Railway posts of Superintendents in the Grade of Rs. 700-900 (Revised Scale) have been recently created or existing posts of Superintendents upgraded;

(b) if so, the number allocated to each of the Divisions on Northern Railway;

(c) the manner in which these are likely to be filled up and by which authority;

(d) whether the seniority of Superintendents already working in these Divisions will be taken into consideration while filling them up; and

(e) if not, why not ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Steps to Minimise Diarrhoea (Child) Deaths

10099. **SHRI S. A. DORAI SEBASTIAN:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the cases of diarrhoea (child) during 1979-80 and 1980-81, State-wise;

(b) what steps have been initiated by Government to minimise the diarrhoea (child) deaths; and