

Valley Express running between Silchar and Gauhati has the following quotas for 1st class booking allotted to various stations:

Aizawl (Mizoram)—2 berths,
 Silchar—8 berths Karimganj—2
 berths, Badarpur—2 berths & Lower
 Halflong—2 berths.

While the quota allotted to Silchar is fully utilised, the utilisation of the quota allotted to Aizawl (Mizoram) is only to the extent of 45 per cent which does not justify any increase in quota for the present.

Overhead Railway Bridge near Shahad

4174. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in respect of the overhead Railway bridge near Shahad (Dist. Thana, Maharashtra) during a period of last six months in regard to utilization of funds sanctioned and physical targets achieved;

(b) if no progress has been made, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has performed its part in this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what action the Railway Administration has taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Preliminary arrangements have been made for shifting the existing level crossing to a temporary new location for acquiring the site for construction of the road over-bridge. The Bridge approaches have to be done by the State Government while the bridge proper has to be done by Railways. The funds which have been provided for Railway's share of cost have been partially used.

(b) to (d). Construction of the railway portion of the bridge over the track has to be synchronised with the construction of the approaches by the State Government. The State Government are having difficulty in getting land freed from encroachment for construction of approaches and State Roadway Authorities are sorting out these issues with the other concerned department of the State Government.

(e) Does not arise.

Operational Staff

4175. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the operational staff (Bombay Central Yard, Western Railway) are paid their wages at Bombay Central Station far away from the yard thereby drawing them away from the operational duties for quite some time; and

(b) if so, whether arrangements will be made for the payment of wages at the place of work?

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

SMs. and ASMs. on Railways

4176. SHRI DAYA RAM SHAKYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) The strength of Station Masters and Assistant Station Masters on Indian Railways, temporary and permanent Division-wise and Grade-wise as on 1st January, 1981;

(b) the number of posts occupied by other cadre persons; and

(c) the reciprocal posts of other cadre occupied by the Station Masters category?

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

Derailment of Trains in South Eastern Railway Zone

4177. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA RATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some passenger and goods trains have derailed in the South Eastern Railway between 1st December, 1980 and 1st February, 1981;

(b) if so, whether any such train has derailed in the Khordha Division;

(c) the name of those passenger and goods trains;

(d) the date and reasons of derailment; and

(e) the efforts which his Ministry propose to make to avoid such derailments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, during the period 1-12-80 to 1-2-81, there were 28 train derailments involving 7 passenger trains and 21 goods trains, on South Eastern Railway.

(b) to (d). There were two train derailments in Khurda Division, details of which are as under:

(i) On 7-12-80 Arah Special Goods train derailed due to failure of Mechanical equipment.

(ii) On 16-12-80, 202 Down Passenger train derailed due to Track defect.

(c) Examination of trains and spot checks in carriage and wagon depots have been intensified and greater care is being paid to the proper maintenance of track. In order to reduce dependence on the human element, sophisticated aid like ultrasonic flaw detectors for wheels, axles and rails, axle counters, track circuiting etc. are being introduced progressively,

Superfast Train between Delhi and Jabalpur via Allahabad

4178. SHRI MARTAND SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a super fast train between Delhi and Jabalpur via Allahabad; and

(b) if so, by what time the new train is expected?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Track Expansion Programme

4179. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the track expansion programme of the Northern Railway for the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether it would be ensured that the regions hitherto neglected in respect of New Railway lines would be given priority in the construction of new railway lines; and

(c) if so, the lines which would be taken up on priority basis in this zone?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). The work of construction of a new broad gauge-