

Quota of Reservation of II Sleeper Berths at Rajahmundry

3688. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received any representation from Kerala Samajam, Rajahmundry asking for quota of reservation of II sleeper berths by 131/132 J. J. Express from Rajahmundry towards Cochin; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). A representation has been received by the Railway Administration for allotment of quota of reserved accommodation to Rajahmundry station by 132 Up Nizamuddin-Ernakulam Jayanti Janata Express. A quota of 2 second class sleeper berths is proposed to be allotted to this station from 1-10-1981.

Simplification of Curriculum of Studies

3689. SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he proposes to announce a fresh change of educational system which we are thinking of every now and then; and

(b) whether Government propose to simplify the curriculum of studies and reduce the burden of small children in their tender age and innovate the pragmatic system for lighter studies on scientific methods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Curriculum reform is a continuous process. NCERT is developing through its project on Primary Education Curriculum Renewal, innovative curricula for the primary stage which lays stress on using local environment for meaningful learning and adopting activity-oriented teaching-learning.

The scheme of studies prepared by NCERT for the ten-year school has already been reviewed with the objective of reducing the curriculum load, by the Review Committee on the Curriculum for the Ten-Year School, 1977. The recommendations of this Committee were considered in the Education Ministers' Conference and the Conference of Boards of Secondary Education in India and accepted for implementation. The syllabi and courses prepared by the Boards of School Education for the secondary and senior secondary stages are reviewed by the Boards from time to time with a view to up-dating and rationalising these as well as to reduce the workload, wherever considered necessary, on the basis of feedback from the affiliated schools and other agencies.

NCERT is also making continuous efforts to improve the quality of education by developing improved teaching-aids and techniques.

Replacement of overaged railway Tracks

3691. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the length of railway track that is overaged and is in immediate need of replacement;

(b) what are the sections where such track is located;

(c) whether the Railways have set a time-limit for replacing these overaged tracks; and