

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF RAILWAYS, AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (d). Seven posts in grades Rs. 3000/- and above, including four General Managers have been lying vacant, one from 1-8-81, two from 1-10-81, one from 30-11-81 and three from 1-12-81. Orders for filling up of five of these posts including three of General Managers have since been issued. The matter is under consideration of the Govt. for the remaining two posts, decisions regarding which are expected to be taken shortly.

Renewal of contracts of societies with satisfactory working

5407. SHRI RANJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

Whether it is a fact that as per extant rules, in case of societies working in a particular field of operation during the tenure of the contract remained satisfactory, the same contract is further awarded to the same society for the further term by negotiation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF RAILWAYS AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Yes, rules provide for extension of handling contracts to the same society if its performance in that particular field of operation is satisfactory.

Unmanned Gate No. 435 of Jhansi Division, Central Railway

5408. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is correct that 150 Up Kutab Express proceeding to

Jabalpur on 24th August, 1981 faced an obstruction at gate No. 435, Jhansi Division, Central Railway, but the train escaped a serious derailment only by chance ;

(b) if so, is it also correct that its cause was that the gate had been left unmanned by the PWI after 18 hours on that day and that some miscreants had removed the gate and laid it on the track ;

(c) whether it is also correct that no action has been taken against the concerned PWI ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF RAILWAYS AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) :

(a) 150 Up Kutab Express of 24-8-81 met with an obstruction at level crossing gate no. 435 between Banmer and Rayaru stations of Gwalior-Agra section at about 22.00 hrs. The gate leaf was damaged as a result but there was no derailment of the train.

(b) The gateman was on duty between 20 hrs. of 24-8-81 to 8.00 hrs. of 25-8-81. He had to run away from the gate at about 21.30 hrs. on 24-8-81 as he was threatened with dire consequences by some unknown miscreant. When he left the place to seek protection, the miscreant had broken open the lock and threw the gate leaf towards the track causing obstruction. The gatemen returned to duty after an hour or so accompanied by a few other gangmen and Permanent May Mistry to find the gate damaged which was repaired immediately.

(c) and (d) : No action was taken against the PWI because he was not responsible in any way. The incident has been reported to the Police for necessary action.