127

Wagon Allotment to Steel Sector

752. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a shortfall in the allotment of wagons to priority sectors such as steel;
- (b) whether Government have difficulties in allotting wagons to Rourkela steel plant; and
- (c) if so, the reasons thereof and steps taken to improve the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTERIES OF RAIL-WAYS AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIK-ARJUN): (a) and (b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Request for a Fast Train on Calcutta-Kharagpur-Adrapurulia-Chakradharpur Section

753. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) steps taken so far by the Government on the West Bengal Chief Minister's request to introduce a fast train on Calcutta-Kharagpur-Adra-Purulia-Chakradharpur section and conversion o. Purulia-Ketshila narrow gauge line into broad gauge; and
 - (b) details thereo.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN MINISTERIES THE OF RAILWAYS AND EDUCATION SOCIAL WELFARE AND AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF **AFFAIRS** PARLIAMENTARY (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Introduction of additional train on Howrah-Purulia-Chakradharpur section is not feasible due to acute

shortage of coaches and resultant impairment of flow of steel plant traffic. 315/316 Howrah-Purulia/Chakradharpur Passenger train has already been accelerated with effect from 15-2-81 in order to provide an overnight fast service between Horwah and Purulia. One and a half coach has also been provided for passengers or; ginating and terminating at Purulia by this pair of train.

An engineering-cum-traffic survey for the conversion of Purulia-Kotshila narrow gauge line into broad gauge has been sanctioned in the Budget for 1981-82 and the field work of the survey is in progress. A final view in the matter will be taken after examination of the survey report with due regard to viability of the project, availability of funds and clearance of the Planning Commission.

Minister's Discussion with Delegation of A.I.L.R.S.A.

754. SHRI BASUDEB ★CHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether he held a discussion with a delegation of All India Loco Running Staff Association on 18th August, 1981;
- (b) if so, details of the grievances and discussion that took place on 18th August, 1981; and
- (c) details of the implementation of the agreed points?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTERIES OF RAIL-WAYS AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIK-ARJUN): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

In the memorandum referred to various points such as staff being penalised for taking part in peaceful demonstrations, discontinuation of provision of two firemen in long distance Mail/Express and Passenger trains, discontinuation of conven-tional 'first in first out' booking system, working of trains without Guards, unsafe working system, utilisation of firemen as driver on Mail/ Express trains in Izatnagar Division of NE Railway, severe detention and cancellation of trains services cause of mis-management, non-implementation of decisions of Running Allowances Committee and Uniform Committee, alleged victimisation and detention of railway employees under National Security Act and irregularities in promotion.

Referring to certain of the demands the following position may be given:—

(a) Rænning Allowance Committee's recommendations:

After the matter has been thoroughly discussed with the organised labour, the entire running allowance scheme has been rationalised on the recommendations of the Running Allowance Committee and necessary instructions have geen issued on 17-7-81.

(b) Recommendations of Uniform Committee:

The recommendations have been examined and a decision has already been taken. Based on the decision, appropriate instructions would be issued.

(c) Alleged victimisation and detention of Railway employees under National Security Act

It has been made clear on the floor of the Parliament and elsewhere that Government's policy is not to resort to any victimisation of employees and action is taken for their acts of com2473 LS-5

mission and omission which attract the provisions of the Conduct Rules and Discipline and Appeal Rules.

As regards the detention of Loco Running Staff under National Security Act, it may be stated that while action is taken by the State Governments concerned, information available indicates that there are no such cases where Railway employees are under detention.

(d) Alleged irregularities in promotion:

The Government do not accept that there has been any irregularity in promotion, as promotion to 'selection' and 'non-selection' posts have to follow a particular procedure which is uniformly applied to all categories of staff.

Other issues: Certain other issues in this memorandum are being examined on merits and action as appropriate would be taken by the authorities concerned.

Expenditure on education by various states

755. SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

The percentage of planned expenditure carmarked for education by the various States in 1981-82.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF RAIL WAYS AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): The available information of the percentage of planned expenditure earmrked for education by the various States in