

(c) amount spent by the Railway to contest these suits;

(d) how many suits were decreed against administration and whether responsibility was fixed against staff for wasting national revenue; and

(e) number of suits pending in Courts in Bombay and Ahmedabad and present position thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) (c), (d) and (e). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) It is not correct that any employees had to file suits on account of wrong policies of the Government.

Promotion policy of Commercial Inspectors etc.

5289. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any uniform promotion policy for Claims Tracers, Assistant Commercial Inspectors and Commercial Inspectors employed in all Zonal Railways; if not reasons thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Western Railway is not implementing the general directives issued by the Railway Board for formation of a separate cadre for Claims Inspector; and

(c) if so, reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Avenues of promotion for non-gazetted staff on the Indian Railways are decided by the Railways themselves generally in consultation with the Organised Labour according to local conditions. It is therefore not considered necessary to lay down any uniform avenue

or promotion applicable to all zonal Railways.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Number of Claims Tracers

5290. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of Claims Tracer/ Assistant Commercial Inspectors and Commercial Inspectors on Indian Railways-Grade-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that Claims Tracer is part of Claims Branch;

(c) if so, why their strength is not taken into account at the time of upgradation in Commercial Inspector cadre; and

(d) reasons thereof;

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

Railway catering rates

5291. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the catering rates were revised and increased in Railways during last three years; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not increasing travelling allowance of employees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) Rates of travelling allowance for catering staff are same as for other Railway employees, and have no relationship with tariff of catering items.

Northern Railways Signal Inspector (W)

5292. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the major work of the section of signal Inspector (W), Northern Railway is concentrated in and around Zafarabad; and

(b) if so, the justification of stationing the district headquarter, artisan staff as well as the relieving hands at Varanasi, a far off place?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The work is spread over through out the section extending over 164 route Kms.

(b) Does not arise. Varanasi is not a far off place but the section starts from Varanasi (Excl.). It is the most important station from where the section can be best controlled and is having direct communication with divisional headquarter.

Wagon Shortage

5293. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:
SHRI R. P. DAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of wagons in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of wagons proposed to be procured by Government to meet the demand of the wagons;

(c) when those wagons are expected to be made available in the country;

(d) the steps taken by this Ministry to procure those wagons; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) There is no shortage of wagons as such. Loading of goods traffic during the current year is the highest in the history of Indian Railways.

(b) to (e). Procurement of wagons is arranged by the Railways taking into account the traffic requirements and Plan Funds made available for this purpose on year to year basis. Consistent with the allocation of funds in the Railway Budget for 1982-83, provision has been made for acquisition of 15,650 wagons in terms of four-wheelers during the year 1982-83.

बीकानेर डिवीजन में वाणिज्यिक निरीक्षक

5294. श्री दया राम शर्मा: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बीकानेर डिवीजन में 1978 के बाद अब तक 455-750 रु० के वेतनमान में वाणिज्यिक निरीक्षकों के कितने पद विभागीय रूप से भरे गये ;

(ख) उनमें से अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जन जातियों के कितने कर्मचारियों की वाणिज्यिक निरीक्षणों के पदों पर पदोन्नति की गई है ;

(ग) क्या वाणिज्यिक निरीक्षकों के पदों पर कुछ व्यक्ति नियुक्त किये गये हैं और यदि हां तो ऐसे कर्मचारियों के नाम क्या हैं ;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों का कोई भी कर्मचारी तदर्थ आधार पर