

**Additional staff at Kathgodam Station**

2393. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains originating from and terminating at Kathgodam station daily;

(b) the total number of clerical staff employed there;

(c) whether separate staff has been appointed for first class booking, second class booking and for announcer and enquiry counters;

(d) if not, whether shortage of staff is causing inconvenience to the passengers; and

(e) if so, the action being taken to appoint additional staff on these counters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) At present, 4 pairs of trains viz. 7|8 Nainital Express, 11|12 Kumaon Express, 101|102 mixed passenger and 103|104 passenger are originating from and terminating at Kathgodam station daily.

(b) and (c). The total number of commercial staff deployed at Kathgodam station is twelve. Separate staff have been provided for booking First Class and Second Class tickets. Staff is combined to attend to enquiry as well as public address system for making announcement etc.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

**Thefts at Lucknow Railway Station**

2394. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) number of thefts of belongings of passengers committed at Lucknow Railway Station during December, 1981 and January, 1982 and the complaints of which were registered with Lucknow Railway Police or Kathgodam Railway Police; and

(b) the number of thefts cases in which culprits were apprehended?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 52 and 47 cases of thefts of passengers' belongings were reported and were registered by the Government Railway Police Station, Lucknow during December, 1981 and January, 1982 respectively. In one of the cases of January, 1982 though the offence was committed at Charbagh Railway Station, its report was lodged at Government Railway Police Station, Kathgodam.

(b) in 11 of these cases, culprits were apprehended.

**Expansion of Port Blair Port**

2395. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal regarding strengthening and expansion of Port Blair Port has since been approved by Government; and

(b) if so, total outlay sanctioned for this purpose and the extent to which capacity of the port is likely to increase after incurring this expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Yes.

(b) The following works estimated to cost Rs. 678.31 lakhs have been sanctioned. After implementation of these works, the following port capacities will be added:—

(i) the Deep Water Wharf at Hope Town would be able to handle additional 1.34 lakh tonnes of general cargo including timber and coal for the proposed thermal power project at Hope Town;

(ii) additional berthing face of 130 M length will become available in Phoenix Bay for inter-island vessels;