

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKAR-JUN): (a) T. T.E.s are provided to man sleeper coaches at the rate of one T.T.E. in each sleeper coach on non-vestibuled trains and one T.T.E. for two sleeper coaches where sleeper coaches are marshalled together and provided with vestibule connections. Sleeper coaches in Grand Trunk and Tamil Nadu Expresses are manned accordingly.

(b) Yes.

(c) Weekly.

Ban on Going South Africa

1955. SHRI V. N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a total ban on Indian artists sportsmen and technicians going to South Africa;

(b) whether any exception has been made in case of any individual; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. However, keeping in mind genuine cultural and religious requirements of a large number of South Africans of Indian origin, cultural troupes/religious preachers have been occasionally allowed to visit South Africa on exceptional and very restricted basis. Government has of late shown extreme caution in this regard. Indian experts working in the countries situated in the immediate neighbourhood of South Africa are also allowed to visit South Africa for practical reasons and to the extent absolutely necessary.

Action taken against those responsible for train accidents

1956. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway accidents during the last three years and how many out of them were due to negligence of railway men and how many were due to antisocial elements; and

(b) in how many cases responsibility has been fixed and action taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKAR-JUN): (a) There were 3043 train accidents on Indian Government Railways during these years 1979-80 to 1981-82, out of which 1873 accidents were caused by failure of Railwaymen and 25 due to suspected sabotage.

(b) 2298 railwaymen were punished during these three years for causing train accidents.

Policy of Reservation on Board of Directors Public Sector Undertakings

1957. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANS-PORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Articles of Associations of Public Sector Undertakings under Ministry do not have any particular clause that debars from nominating persons belonging to SC and ST as non-official Director on Boards of Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the reasons why no persons of proven calibre having faith in Public Sector from Industry, Commerce, Administration, Trade Unions or from Social fields hailing from SC & ST are nominated as non-official/part-time Directors;

(c) whether any recommendations to nominate outstanding personalities from SC & ST are pending with the Ministry;