

(a) how much are the earnings made so far under the Palace on Wheels Project of Rajasthan ;

(b) whether the earnings have justified the investment on the project ; and

(c) plans drawn up to attract more traffic on the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) So far upto 22.2.1984 the total earnings from the operation of 'Palace on Wheels' is to the tune of Rs. 1.47 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Intensive efforts are being made to publicise and promote this train in U.K. and other countries in close coordination with the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation. This includes distribution of advertising material abroad, giving advertisement in foreign papers/magazines, contacting various travel agencies etc.

Filling up of Vacancies Reserved for SC/ST

1915. SHRI RAM KUMAR MEENA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is backlog in regard to the filling of vacancies of Group A to D (Class-I to IV) in various categories of jobs in the Ministry of Railways reserved for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ;

(c) whether any efforts have been made to fill up these vacancies reserved for SC/ST ; and

(d) the time by which the backlog of vacancies reserved for SC/ST is likely to be wiped out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN

THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) There is no backlog in Group A & D. However, there is backlog in group B and C due to non-availability of suitable SC/ST candidates. As per extant rules, this backlog is carried forward to subsequent years for making good.

(c) and (d) Recruitment to Group B and C is done through the Union Public Service Commission and Staff Selection Commission respectively. The backlog of SC/ST in recruitment categories is added to the normal reserved vacancies when sending indents to UPSC/SSC. Clearance of backlog in promotional categories will depend upon the availability of eligible SC/ST candidates in the zone of consideration.

India-Aided Projects in Bhutan

1916. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether review was made of the progress of India aided projects in Bhutan the recent visit of the King of Bhutan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A A. RAHIM) : (a) and (b) No Sir, no specific review of India aided projects in Bhutan was undertaken during the recent visit of the King of Bhutan. Generally speaking these projects are progressing satisfactorily.

Western World Reaction to the Film "Gandhi"

1917. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have come across information that after the film