

consideration. The last Inter-Regional Seminar on Water Resources was held in Fergana (U. S. S. R.) in 1966. The Seminar was an occasion for exchange of views amongst experts from various countries on various aspects of utilisation of water resources. For developing countries, the problems which were identified in general were the constraint of finances, difficulties in repayability, lack of technical education, lack of hydraulic data, development of an organisation for water management, need for storage schemes, changes in water laws for improving water resources development and water pollution.

Memorandum by Railway Porters Union of Southern Railway

4585. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had received any memorandum from the licensed Railway Porters Union of Southern Railway sometime in 1969 ;

(b) if so, the decision of Government on the points raised in the memorandum ; and

(c) if Government have taken no decision as yet, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Withdrawal of Police Cases against Employees Involved in Incidents on 12th November, 1970 at Gauhati (Northeast Frontier Railway)

4586. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the police cases filed against Railway employees after the incidents at Gauhati on 12th November, 1970 have since been withdrawn and if not the reasons therefor ; and

(b) whether the Officer who was on the spot and was directly responsible for provoking

the incidents has since been promoted and if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No, Sir. The cases are still under police investigations. The Railway Administration cannot interfere with the natural course of justice.

(b) The issue does not arise at present.

Third Class Sleeper Coach in Palezghat-Samastipur-Narkatiaganj Passenger Train

4587. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a persistent demand from the local people to attach a III Class sleeper coach in Palezghat-Samastipur-Narkatiaganj passenger Train from Palezghat to Bairagnia ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Alleged Efforts of Martial Law Authorities in Bangla Desh to Flood Chittagong Hill Tracts

4588. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Martial Law authorities in Bangla Desh have been trying to flood the Chittagong Hill tracts and adjoining areas of Assam, i. e., Mizo Hills District by deliberately and forcibly closing 16 sluice gates of the Karanaphuli Hydro-electric Project at Kaptai in Chittagong hill tracts ;

(b) whether due to closure of all sluice gates, level of water in the Halda, Sankha and Matamuhuri rivers rose above the danger mark and Mizo district was flooded ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND