

(b) Major importing countries are ; Hungary, Sudan, Ghana, Poland, Iran, Kenya and Burma.

“C” Class status for Adra City (South Eastern Railway)

315. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the population at Adra (S. E. Railway) has exceeded 50 thousand and the city requires to be declared as “C” Class for sanction of House Rent Allowance;

(b) whether any recommendation to that effect has been made by the local authorities, and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in taking steps in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI) : No. As per latest census figures, population of Adra is 18,839. As such, it does not qualify for “C” class city status.

(b) and (c). Local Railway Authorities have submitted a proposal that Adra and other places within a radius of 8 kms, which together have a population exceeding 50 thousand, be classified as a “C” class city for House Rent Allowance purposes. The proposal is not tenable as the criteria for classifying a city is the population within its own municipal limits, and on this basis, Adra cannot be classified “C” class city for the purpose of House Rent Allowance.

Stoppage of work by Railwaymen due to excesses by Police/RPF.

316. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of instances of excesses by Police/RPF which have resulted in the stoppage of work by Railwaymen and the number of workers involved (Station-wise) in the years from 1970 till date;

(b) the steps taken to bring to books the staff of RPF and Police Departments found guilty; and

(c) the general policy laid down to avoid recurrence of assault by police/RPF ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. Sec. No. LT3211/172 ]

(b) and (c) :

1. Every endeavour is made to maintain cordial relations between Police/RPF personnel and Railway employees of other departments;
2. The need observe utmost restraint and good behaviour is time and again impressed upon Police/RPF personnel;
3. Instructions have been issued to RPF to deal with the Railway employees politely, without use of force and without hand-cuffing them. Before searching the houses of railway employees, prior permission of the Divisional authorities is taken.
4. On receipt of complaints of alleged excesses by Police/RPF personnel, joint inquiries are instituted and in case prima facie case is established departmental proceedings are initiated and deterrent action is taken against such of the personnel as are found guilty.

Stoppage of Train Service in Sealdah Division (Eastern Railway)

317. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any stoppage of train services in Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway on the 1st April, 1972;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the names of the organisations which had given a call for strike on this occasion, their demands and the steps taken to meet their demands; and