

(b) The Central Government has no plans at present to take over this railway as it would not be financially justified. The Bihar Government, however, has been requested to protect this railway from unhealthy road competition, and, to consider its request for financial assistance, in order to improve the efficiency of working of this railway.

Cancellation of trains in Eastern Region

2165. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 900 trains of the Eastern region have been cancelled permanently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are aware that it has caused immense hardship to the travelling public?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No. Only 60 trains have been cancelled on Northeast Frontier, North Eastern, Eastern and South Eastern Railways.

(b) and (c) These trains have been cancelled due to poor patronisation. The pattern of traffic is, however, being watched and if traffic builds up, suitable augmentation of train services would be considered later.

Demand for abolition of dual system of Advocacy

2166. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the High Courts which permit dual system of advocacy. (Solicitors and Advocates);

(b) whether there is a continuing demand for the abolition of this system; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR. SROJINI MAHISHI): (a) High Courts of Bombay and Calcutta.

(b) and (c) Divergent views have been expressed on the subject by those concerned with it and as yet Government have not taken any decision thereon.

Visit of the Minister of state to Study Problems of Haldia

2167. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals during his three-day stay in West Bengal visited the construction site at Haldia to make an on-the-spot study of the problems being faced by the project; and

(b) what are the findings of his study?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) No Sir,

(b): Does not arise.

Summer and Winter Uniforms to Staff of Metre Gauge Section of Northern Railway

2168. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:—

(a) whether Railway staff on metre gauge of Northern Railway have not been provided either the summer or winter uniforms due to them;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to supply them winter uniforms at once keeping in view the fact that winter seasons already set in?