

Saving of Exchange by Indigenous Products

1646. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have saved considerable amount of foreign exchange by using indigenous products; and

(b) if so, the foreign exchange saved on this account during 1975?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) In the year 1974-75, the total purchase of Indian Railways amounted to Rs. 590.90 crores. Of this Rs. 520.20 crores were from indigenous sources. In the year 1975, import substitution of items valued at about Rs. 2 crores has been effected.

Dealership in Fertilizers for Unemployed Graduates

1647. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to allot dealership in fertiliser to the unemployed graduates; and

(b) whether any directive has been issued in this regard to all concerned?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b). While no directive has been issued in this regard, some fertilizer units give preference to unemployed graduates, to the extent possible, for appointment as dealers.

Terms of Zonal and Divisional Railway Users Consultative Committee

1649. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the term of the Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committee and Divisional Railway Users Consultative Committee ending March, 1976 was abruptly terminated in September, 1975 earlier than scheduled;

(b) whether the Committee has been constituted keeping in view the area covered by the South Eastern Railway; and

(c) whether the catering committee is being revived solely to look after the catering and its performance?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The term of the Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committee was due to expire on 31st December, 1975 and that of the Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee on 31st March, 1976. It was decided to reconstitute these Committees from 1st September, 1975 and 1st October, 1975 respectively.

(b) The Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees have already been reconstituted and the constitution of the Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee of the South Eastern Railway is in the process of finalisation.

(c) Yes.

Recruitment in Class IV Service Under D.S., Jhansi

1650. SHRI NATHU RAM AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: