

**Infiltration of Bihari's from Bangladesh**

\*894. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:  
SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news which appeared in 'Hindustan Times' dated 16-7-80 that the Pakistanis now stranded in Bangladesh have decided to infiltrate in small groups into India and stay in this country permanently; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that these Pakistanis are known as 'Biharis' are 4 lakhs in number and have abandoned the idea of going to Pakistan and have decided to come to India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present there are about 3 lakh non-Bengalis in Bangladesh. These stranded non-Bengalis have been demanding immediate repatriation, to Pakistan as all of them opted for Pakistan after the emergence of Bangladesh.

**Travelling on Roofs of Trains on the Western Railways**

\*895. SHRI B. R. NAHATA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trains on the Western Railways in the Metre Gauge and on the Broad Gauge between Bombay and Delhi and Ajmer and Khandwa have virtually become double-decker and are used by the passengers for sitting on the roofs of the trains;

(b) whether the railway authorities have regularised the sitting of passengers on the roofs of the trains by issuing circulars and giving caution

orders to the drivers for the safety of passengers sitting on the roofs of the trains;

(c) whether sitting on the roofs is an offence and if so, what action is being taken by the Railways; and

(d) how many passengers have met with accidents while travelling on the roofs of the trains during the last one year and what preventive action has been taken by the railway authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) No, Sir. However, it has been noticed that some passengers indulge in roof travelling even when accommodation is available inside the compartments.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Travelling on the roof of a train is prohibited under Section 118(2) of the Indian Railways Act, 1890 and is punishable with imprisonment upto a term of 3 months or with a fine of upto Rs. 150 or both.

(d) Four persons met with accidents while travelling on the roofs of trains during 1979-80 on the Western Railway; out of them three persons were killed and one person was injured. Instructions exist to the staff not to start a train when people are found travelling on the roof and prosecute them if efforts to persuade or to force them to come down, fail. Special checks are conducted by the ticket checking staff to prevent travelling on the roof of the train.

Efforts are made to increase the accommodation available on trains. Special trains are run and additional coaches are attached to the trains to the maximum extent possible within the available resources to meet the requirements of the travelling public, particularly at the time of Melas, Urs and other festivals.