

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

(b) Based on the Indian draft text, the Declaration adopted by the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries held in New Delhi from February 9—13, 1981, reaffirms the determination of non-aligned countries "to work for the success of the Conference on the Indian Ocean, scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka in 1981, to achieve the objectives of the concept of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, and to this end urged all Great Powers and other major maritime users to participate in the Conference in a constructive spirit...." During the current session of the Ad Hoc Committee on Indian Ocean in New York, India, in cooperation with other non-aligned countries which are members of the Ad Hoc Committee, is endeavouring to promote agreement on the convening of the Conference in Sri Lanka as scheduled.

#### Availability of wagons during 6th Plan

\*161. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether no firm details are available with the Ministry about how many wagons will be available during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has also no information about how many will be required;

(c) Whether experts committee of Railways have advised the Railways to explore the ways to increase the manufacture of wagon capacity;

(d) whether his Ministry has also approached Planning Commission to allow the import of wagons; and

(e) if so, whether they have given their sanction and how many will be imported?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) The Sixth Five Year Plan envisages procurement

of about 100,000 wagons in four-wheeler units.

(b) The requirement depends upon the quantum of traffic to be carried for which projections have been made in coordination with other Ministries.

(c) If reference to Expert Committee relates to Planning Commission no such advice has been received in this regard.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Corruption in booking of seats on western railway

\*162. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is rampant corruption in booking of First Class and Second Class Berths/Seats on the Western Railway;

(b) whether Government are aware that there are Agents operating for booking of berths or seats and extorting exorbitant premiums from passengers;

(c) whether Government are also aware that corruption in the booking of berths or seats in First Class or Second Class is either connived at by the Booking staff or they are hand in glove with the Agents operating for the said purpose; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the corruption in the booking of berth/seats?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Some reports of unauthorised agents cornering reserved accommodation on fictitious names in the metropolitan cities including Bombay and then transferring the same at premium to other needy passengers have been received.