

Appointments on Eastern Railway Station

167. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTA-CHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some ticket Collectors have been appointed at Sealdah and Howrah Stations on the Eastern Railway neither through Railway Service Commission nor through Employment Exchange; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Railway accidents

168. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTA-CHARJEE:

SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: DR. BHAI

MAHAVIR:

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) what is the number of Railway accidents and dacoities that occurred, from 1st January, 1983 to 31st October, 1983 and what are the reasons for each of those accidents;

« (b) the total number of passengers killed and injured in the said accidents;

(c) what steps Government have taken in this regard; and

(d) whether any of the said accidents took place due to sabotage?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) During January to October, 1983, 616 train accidents

'and 56 dacoities (upto September; took place on Indian Railways. These accidents were due to failure of railway staff, failure of persons other than railway staff, failure of equipment, sabotage and combination of track and rolling stock defects, etc.

(b) The number of passengers killed and injured in these accidents is as under: —

Killed	47
Injured	383

(c) 11 accidents have been attributed to sabotage/suspected sabotage.

(d) Some of the anti sabotage measures are: —

(i) Patrolling of track by engineering gangmen, village defence parties and home guards, and Po-lice on vulnerable sections.

(ii) Guarding of vulnerable bridges.

(iii) Running of pilot or patrol special or Goods trains ahead of a passenger train when trouble on a section is specially apprehended.

(iv) Burring of fishbolts whereby after the nuts are tightened on the bolt, the threads are destroyed and the bolt cannot be removed without using a chisel.

(v) Reducing the number of fish-plated joints by welding of joints which also improves riding quality.

Suburban trains in Sealdah division

169. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTA-CHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that all suburban trains of Sealdah Division in Eastern Railway ran record late in the last eight months of 1983; and

(to) if so, what are the reasons therefor?