

concerned, together with an undertaking to bear the cost involved as per extant rules.

(d) There are no proposals from the State Government for conversion of existing culverts in Gauhati city by road over-bridges. However, two road over-bridges have been constructed in the city in replacement of level crossings and two more proposals are under examination.

#### **Transportation of coal to Bhavnagar Port**

2959. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to bring coal to Bhavnagar Port from various coalfields directly or from coal depot from various parts of the country so as to run trains regularly and in time; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The Railways do intend to bring coal from Bengal-Bihar coalfields from Calcutta Port to Bhavnagar Port by coastal ships to feed the Metre Gauge Sections of Bhavnagar Division but shipowners are reluctant to bring ships to Bhavnagar due to operational difficulties. There have been instances of ships breaking away from the anchor and colliding with other ships in the vicinity. In view of these difficulties Railway coal for Bhavnagar division of Western Railway is now being moved to Okha Port.

#### **Stoppage of trains between Bhubaneswar and Puri**

2960. SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the people of Khurda Road Division to make a stoppage at Janakadeipur between Bhubaneswar and Puri for all the passengers trains; and

(b) if so, whether the above proposal is likely to be considered during the year 1981-82?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Although no representation has been received, a proposal to stop the remaining two Passenger trains at Janakadeipur, in addition to the five already stopping has been examined but not found feasible for want of traffic justification.

#### **Railway lands of the N.F. Railway**

2961. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway employees, and their family members and other people settled on the railway land of Gauhati, Maligaon, new Bongaigaon, Lumding, Mariani, Kurkating, Tinsukia and Dibrugarh station of the N.F. Railway; and

(b) the number of unauthorised people in these areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Representation from the pensioners' Association, Dombivil**

2962. SHRIMATI VIJAYA RAJE SCINDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation in the month of March, 1981 from Dombivli pensioners' Association (District Thane, Maharashtra);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) The following demands have been made therein:—

(1) Increase in Ex-gratia pension to a minimum of Rs. 100 to those who retired before 1-4-57 and family pension to their widows on humanitarian grounds.

(2) Grant of Ex-gratia pension to such employees who retired under State Railway Provident Fund contributory scheme after 1-4-57.

(c) The demands are being looked into.

#### **Financial relief to retired railway employees**

2963. SHRIMATI VIJAYA RAJE SCINDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board vide their letter No. F(3) (iii-77) PF-78, dated 20th September, 1980 had invited applications for some financial relief in prescribed from such persons who retire from railway service between 1st April, 1967 to 31st March, 1980 and had taken their provident fund in full;

(b) if so, how many applications were received from the Central/Western Railway retired employees;

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

(d) what are the reasons for the delay in the follow-up action and by when the same is likely to be taken?

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

(b) Even though no applications were invited from the retired Railway employees, 230 applications from the ex-employees of Central Railway and 16 applications from the ex-employees of Western Railway have been received so far, requesting for some ad-hoc relief.

(c) and (d) The demand to grant some ad-hoc relief to the Railway employees who have retired between 1-4-57 and 31-3-80 under the Contributory Provident Fund Scheme is currently under examination in consultation with the Ministry of Finance.

#### **Representation by Bhartiya Railway Mazdoor Sangh**

2964. SHRI HARISHANKAR BHABHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether demands made by Bharatiya Railway Majdoor Sangh in their representation dated the 3rd July, 1980 have been considered by Government; if so, what decision has been taken thereon uptil now; and

(b) if no action has been taken or no substantial progress has been made in this regard, what are the reasons for the delay in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The following main demands were made in the representation:

(i) The inclusion of Coach Attendants in the channel of promotion of Commercial Department.