

(b) if so, what is the response of tourists in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir. A special tourist train has been recently introduced in the Rajasthan sector.

(b) The response is encouraging.

Attachment of a 1st Class Compartment in Express train running between Cannanoor and Ernakulam

*431. SHRI C. HARI DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no 1st Class Compartment in the Express train running during the day time between Cannanoor and Ernakulam in Kerala;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to attach a 1st Class Compartment in that train; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir. There is no First Class Compartment in the train.

(b) The Cochin-Cannanore Express carries 9 coaches of Mangalore-Niza-muddin Jayanti Janata Express between Cochin and Shorenur and thus has been given the same classless composition as the Jayanti Janata Express.

(c) and (d) Not at present.

Railway concessions given to Press Correspondents.

*432. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR;
SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO
DHABE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the value of concessions given to Press Correspondents who availed the railway concession facility during the years 1979-80 and 1980-81?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): No such separate statistics are being maintained.

Unemployment in rural areas

*433. SHRI R. R. MORARKA;
SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO*
DHABE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people in rural areas who were below the poverty line during the years 1978-79, 1979-80 and 1980-81; and

(b) what is the number of unemployed rural population in the year 1981-82 and what programmes Government propose to initiate to give them employment under various schemes of integral employment programme carried on in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) The number of people in rural areas below the poverty line for the year 1979-80 have been estimated at 259.56 million. No estimates have been made for the years 1978-79 and 1980-81.

(b) The number of unemployed persons in the rural areas was approximately 16.6 million in March