

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to prevent retrenchment and for absorption of these casual labourers into regular service?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN); (a) Yes.

(b) 131 workers were engaged for re-building of bridges. They had been stopped on completion of work. They will, however, be re-engaged as and when new work is undertaken on the basis of seniority.

Absorption of technical apprentices in Railways

2089. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET; Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision on the request of the technical apprentices trained, by the railways for their absorption against regular vacancies; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons for the delay in taking a decision in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (*>) Under the Apprentice Act, 1961 there is no obligation on the part of Railways to give appointment to the Apprentices on completion of their training. It has, however, been decided that 25% of the vacancies of skilled artisans will *inter alia* be filled by direct recruitment from among course completed apprentices.

Verification of Service Record of Class I and Class n Personnel in D.G.H.S.

2090. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 100 non-medical Class I and Class n Officers working in the Directorate General, Health Services who 14 51 Rs-3

have completed more than 25 years of service have not so far been issued the Certificates showing verification of service record as per the orders of the Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and whether any responsibility for this lapse has been or will be fixed; and

(c) by when Government propose to complete the job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR); (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The work regarding the verification of qualifying service of the officers who have already completed 25 years service or are within 5 years before the date of retirement has been taken up on a priority basis and will be completed as early as possible. These could not be issued due to various administrative issues/ problems involved. No pension case has been held up for want of service verification certificate.

Cleaning of Railway Tracks at Junction-Stations

2091. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railway tracks at junction stations are not cleaned promptly which causes great inconvenience to passengers;

(b) if so, what measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken to ensure prompt and complete cleaning of human-waste and night soil lying open on the tracks;

(c) what are the Government's instructions in this regard; and

(d) how Government monitor the implementation of these instructions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) At times the cleaning of platform tracks at junction stations is not satisfactory.

(b to (d) Every endeavour is made by railways to keep the railway station platform and railway tracks clean. Some of the important measures taken by the railways for maintaining high standard of cleanliness and hygiene at the stations are as follows:—

(i) Washable aprons have been provided on the tracks at important junction stations, terminal stations etc. to facilitate cleaning and washing of tracks.

(ii) Sanitary Inspectors with adequate sanitary staff have been posted at all important junction stations;

(iii) Their work is inspected regularly by the supervisory staff at the station.

(iv) Surprise inspections are made by the senior officials from the Divisional Headquarters, Zonal Headquarters and the Railway Board.

(v) To motivate the staff for achieving high standard of cleanliness, competition are arranged and trophies and other prizes are awarded to the best maintained stations for the staff working there.

(vi) Cooperation of the travelling public is sought in maintaining sanitary conditions at stations by exhorting them to desist from unhygienic habits.

(vii) Notices are displayed requesting passengers not to use toilet in coaches when the train is standing at a station.

(viii) Cleanliness drives are launched from time to time, to ensure proper cleaning and high standard of sanitation at the station.

Appointments made in N. F. Railway on compassionate ground

2092. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHAR-MA; Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of

persons appointed in the N.F. Railway during 1978, 1979 and 1980 on compassionate grounds?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Conversion of Hassan Mangalore Railway Line

2093. SHRI B. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister, of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert the Hassan-Mangalore railway line into broad gauge; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) A survey for conversion of the line has been sanctioned recently; it would be possible to take a decision only after the survey is completed and the report examined subject to clearance by the Planning Commission.

Health Institutes functioning without permanent Directors

2094. DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the institutions under his Ministry which do not have permanent Directors and the period of their vacancy; and

(b) what are the reasons for not filling up these posts so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) There is no permanent Director as such in any institution under the charge of this Ministry. Therefore, the question of furnishing such information does not arise.