

(a) whether Government are aware that several copies of photos are required to be sent along with passport application resulting into unnecessary additional expenses;

(b) whether Government propose to issue instructions to the regional Passport Offices to ask only 'for exact number of copies;

(c) what is the exact number of photographs required to be submitted with each application form; and

(d) whether Government propose to clarify the position for public information through press?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (c) The exact number of photographs to be submitted along with passport application has already been specified in the application form itself. Only five copies of such photographs have to be submitted by the applicant for the processing of his application and the issue of passport.

(d) Does not arise.

Replacement of Territorial Army personnel by railwaymen

1028. SHRI D. HEERACHAND: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the locomen's strike in Delhi Division of the Northern Railway has since been called off;

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

(c) whether the Territorial Army contingent has been released by the Railways; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor and by when the Railway staff will replace them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) A statement is attached.

Statement

(a) and (b) The locomen's strike was called off on 16-6-1980 following discussions by the General Manager, Northern Railway with the representatives of the Association and the following decisions were taken: —

(i) The magisterial enquiry ordered by the Haryana Government is a welcome step to find the truth about the incident at Saropla Station on 6-6-80. To enable an impartial enquiry being held, the Haryana Government will be approached to consider temporary shirking of SHO's at least during the pendency of the enquiry.

(ii) The break in service will not be imposed.

(iii) In cases where FIRs have been lodged and departmental action has not simultaneously been taken so far, the staff will be taken back on duty pending decision of the Court.

(iv) All other cases where departmental action has been taken will be reviewed by a Committee of officers sympathetically in five days.

(v) Absence of all staff during strike period will be treated as "No work, no pay".

(vi) Escorts on selected commuter trains will be provided for next few days.

(vii) As an experimental measure, a C&W Khalasi will be provided on 3 selected commuter trains where chronic alarm chain pulling cases exist.

(viii) All loco running staff abstaining from duty on account of this agitation will resume duty by 24 hrs. on 16-6-80.

The Northern Railway Administration have implemented the above decisions both in letter and spirit. The staff arrested for cognizable offences

have been released by the police on court's bail. No break in service has been imposed. There were 196 employees who were initially removed or dismissed from service for the charges of violence, assault, intimidation and causing damage to property and locomotives etc. All these cases have been reviewed by a Committee of officers as a result of which all have been taken back to duty except 56 employees who were held guilty of acid throwing, assault, intimidation, causing wilful damage to public property etc. Even in these cases, employees have a right to appeal further under the Discipline and Appeal Rules.

(c) and (d) Territorial Army Units are embodied and deployed in aid of Civil power, wherever considered necessary, to maintain the line of communication. Deployment of the embodied Units and their disembodiment are decided depending upon the exigencies.

Reservation for admission in medical/technological colleges

1029. SHRI G. R. MHAISEKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any quota fixed for admissions to the medical colleges for the children of employees of the nationalized banks, railways, public undertakings and such other bodies; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to formulate such a proposal in view of the mobility of these employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) In so far as the seats allocated to the State and Union Territories from the Central Pool are concerned, the children of the Central Government employees which includes the employees of the Railways who are posted in the allottee States or have headquarters therein are eligible for

consideration. The children of the employees of nationalized banks, public undertakings and other such bodies are not eligible for consideration against these seats.

As 103 of the 106 medical colleges in India are under administrative control of States/Universities/Corporations/Private Bodies, We had taken up the question of admission of the children of the Central Government employees with the State Governments. The majority of the States and Union Territories with medical colleges permit the children of the Central Government employees posted within their territorial jurisdiction to be considered for admission to their medical colleges, along with their own residents, subject to varying qualifications differing from State to State with regard to the passing of the eligible examination from an educational institution located in the State/U.T. and/or with a further stipulation of duration of stay domicile in the State/Union Territory varying from zero to five years. Some of the States allow similar consideration to the children of the employees of the corporate sector also.

Double decker trains

1030. SHRI G. R. MHAISEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to run double decker trains in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is actually no fabrication of double decker bogies taking place at present; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Double decker coaches are already running on Bombay-Pune, Bombay-Surat and Madras-Bangalore sections. Also, intro-