

An invitation has been extended to the Chinese "Foreign Minister to visit India.

Efforts are also being made to promote exchanges in such fields as agriculture, medical research, trade, culture, etc. on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Chinese proposal for settling border dispute

104. SHRIMAT AMARJIT KAUR:

SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China has offered its 'package deal' proposal for settling the border dispute with India;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is the reaction of the Government of India thereto; and

(c) what steps Government have so far taken to settle the border problem with China and with what success?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) "The Chinese official news agency has stated as follows: 'Speaking to an Indian journalist a few days ago, Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping said: "So long as both sides are sincere, respect the present state of the border, and are tolerant towards each other, the Sino-Indian boundary question can be solved through peaceful negotiations. As a matter of fact, ever since negotiations on the boundary question began, China has never asked for the return of all the territory illegally incorporated into India by the old colonialists. Instead, China suggested that both countries should make concessions, China in the East Sector and India in the West Sector, on the basis of the actually controlled border line so as to solve the Sino-Indian

boundary question in a package plan, thus fully demonstrating the spirit of mutual understanding."

Similar suggestions have been made to us on earlier occasions by the Chinese Government. This time it is somewhat more precise. The Government of India has never accepted the premise on which it is based, namely, that the Chinese side are making a concession in the Eastern Sector by the giving up of territory which they allege is illegally incorporated into India. Nevertheless we welcome the prospect of the Eastern Sector being settled without any particular difficulty.

The India-China boundary question is long-standing and complex. After a considerable lapse of time, our two Governments have only just begun to come to grips with it once more. This itself is a positive step. It may be that ways other than the package solution suggested by the Chinese Government could prove more effective.

It is the policy of the Government of India to seek a solution to this question by peaceful means consistent with national honour and dignity.

Dacoities in running trains

105. SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI:

SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY: SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of dacoities on running trains in the last two months from 1st May, 1980;

(b) if so, what is the loss of human lives in these incidents; and

(c) what compensation has been paid to the passengers for the same and what action has been taken against the security staff of the Railways for the non-protection of passengers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 14 incidents of dacoities in running trains were reported during the last two months viz. May and June, 1980.

(b) 6 persons (all criminals) lost their lives in these incidents.

(c) No compensation is paid by the Railways to the victims of such crimes. Policing being a State subject under the Constitution, the responsibility of ensuring the safety of passengers rests with Government Railway Police which functions under the administrative and disciplinary control of the State Governments. Railway Protection Force has, however, only preventive and detective powers in respect of Railway property which includes consignments booked with the Railways.

Air-conditioned chair car for Tourists in the Taj ana Pink City Expresses

A06. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:
> SHRIMATI MARGATHAM CHANDRASEKHAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air-conditioned chair-car facilities are not available for foreign and Indian tourists in the Taj Express and the Pink City Express;

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

(c) by when Government propose to introduce Air-conditioned chair car and other facilities in these trains?

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

(b) and (c) As there was no demand, manufacture of self generating full AC chair cars was not undertaken by Indian Railways till the current year and for the first time self generating Broad Gauge AC chair cars are being manufactured in 1980-81. Further manufacture of Ac chair cars in future will depend on the availability of funds and the manufacturing capacity within the country. Provision of AC chair cars on Taj Express will be duly considered along with other similar demands, depending on the availability of self generating AC chair cars in future. There is no proposal for manufacture of self generating AC chair cars on the Metre Gauge and as such introduction of this service in Pink City Express does not arise at present.

Issue of permits for Matador Vans

107. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:
SHRIMATI MARGATHAM CHANDRASEKHAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Administration has recently decided to introduce 'Matador Vans' and six seater scooter on fixed fare for commuters in view of the high cost of taxi and scooter fare and if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) what are the norms and conditions laid down by the Delhi Administration for grant of permits for plying of Matador Vans and six-seater; and

ic) what is the number of permits which have been issued for 'Matador Van' and six seater scooter by now and how many more are proposed to be issued and by when?