

On inspection of premises and verification of final records, etc., by the Railway Administration they submit their recommendations to the Ministry of Railways for further consideration, who are the final appointing authority in this regard.

(c) Yes.

(d) and (e) The recognised railway agents can, secure reserved accommodation from the Reservation Office on telephone after three hours of the opening of reservation. These reservations are required to be confirmed by presenting proper requisition in the Reservation Office.

Special National Convention of Railwaymen at Secunderabad

2102. SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Railway Employees' Confederation held a special National Convention of Railwaymen at Secunderabad in February this year;

(b) if so, what are the resolutions passed by the said Convention; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) A copy of the resolution containing their demands is at Statement. The demands have been considered in the past. There were informal discussions of the Railway Board with the representatives of the Confederation on 20-12-78 and again on 31-1-79. The position in respect of the various demands of that Body was explained to them.

Resolution of Demands

The extended CWC meeting of the AIREC held at Secunderabad on 14th February, 1970 takes serious note of the fact that fresh attacks on the democratic Trade Union Rights of Railwaymen have been allowed to be

launched by the present Central Government in different parts of the country through revival of Black Circulars of the authoritarian regime, application of Black Rules such as 14(ii) 149, etc. and other penal measures such as penal transfers, illegal show-cause notices/warnings, etc. It is also noticed that the authoritarian forces among the Railway Bureaucrats have been given a free hand to subvert restoration of the Rule of Law. In context of past experience during and after the March, 1974 Strike and specially during the emergency, the Railwaymen cannot ignore this danger to democracy.

This meeting, as such, strongly demands:

Immediate vacation of all cases of victimisation and penal action in Northern, Central, southern, South Eastern Rlys. etc.

Withdrawal of all black circulars.

Stoppage of application of all Black Rules.

Scrapping of all Black Rules, like 14(ii) 149, etc.

This meeting strongly feels that these repressive measures have been unleashed to avoid settlement of the 'Six Point Basic Demands of the NCCRS.

This meeting, therefore, again reminds the Railway Ministry for early negotiated settlements of the 'six Point Demands of the NCCRS and items of demands of the constituents already discussed with the Railway Board.

Leave reserve staff for Signal and Telecommunication Department of the Railways

2103. SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the existing strength of leave reserve staff for different categories of the Signal and Telecom-

munication Department in each Division of Indian Railways; and

(b) what is the required number of leave reserve staff as per rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b) Leave Reserve percentages have been laid down for various categories of staff on the Railways. In respect of S&T Department the Leave Reserve percentage laid down vary from 15 to 25. Although Railway Administrations are free to operate the Leave Reserve within the minima and maxima prescribed, the Railway Administrations have been advised not to increase the same in view of the need to achieve economy in administrative expenditure without the approval of the Ministry of Railways. However, wherever, the Leave Reserve percentage in operation happens to be below the minimum prescribed i.e. 15 per cent the Railway Administrations have been authorised to bring the same upto that level.

Work in the Jakhapura-Daitari portion of the Jakhapura-Banspani rail link

2104. SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI:

SHRI DHANESHWAR MAJHI;

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work in the Jakhapura-Daitari section of the Jakhapura-Banspani rail link has already started; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which the amount for the remaining portion i.e. from Daitari to Banspani, has not been sanctioned so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) To make best use of the available funds, the project is planned to be taken up in suitable phases. Work on the remaining length of the project

will be taken up, after Jakhapura-Daitari section nears completion.

Cancellation of permits of trucks and tractors carrying passengers

2105. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to cancel the permits of trucks and tractors carrying passengers; and

(b) if so, what are the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT, (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b) Section 60 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 provides that a transport authority which granted a permit may cancel or suspend it for such period as it thinks fit if the vehicle is used in any manner not authorised by the permit. Hence the permits for trucks and tractors can be cancelled/suspended if they are used as passenger vehicles. The State Transport Authorities thus already have requisite power to take suitable action in the matter. Instructions have also been issued to State Governments to bring these provisions to the notice of the transport authorities in the State for strict enforcement.

Thefts of spare parts from D.T.C depots

2106. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the average number of trips missed by the Delhi Transport Corporation every day; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to prevent thefts of spare parts from depots and workshops of Delhi Transport Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) Against 33085