

the Passport Act, 1967 to incorporate the recommendation made by the Commission has already been initiated.

Those relating to public health form the subject matter of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Amendment) Bill, 1974 which is before the Joint Committee of the Houses. The recommendations regarding punishment for wilful failure to pay the tax assessed under the Act, making false statement in declaration, abetment of false return and taking away the taxation offences from the application of Probation of Offenders Act, 1958 have been incorporated in the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1973, which is presently before the Select Committee.

(b) In view of the foregoing, it would be premature at this stage to answer this question.

Quality Control of Rolling-Stock Components

5. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR
ADIVAREKAR
SHRIMATI RATHNABHAI SRFE-
NIVASA RAO :
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken to ensure quality control at the manufacturing stage of rolling-stock components in railway workshops ; and

(b) what check is exercised to see that poor quality components are not used in the rolling stock of the railways ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SARDAR BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Production Control Organisation attached to individual Railway Workshops which has the necessary inspecting staff, closely check components, which go into Rolling Stock during repairs, at different stages of manufacture and exercise strict control so that

when stock is turned out of the workshops, the same is upto the required standard of maintenance. The components which are found to be below the specified standard are rejected and are not allowed to be used on Rolling Stock.

Mathura Refinery

6. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Indian Express of the 1st October, 1974 under the heading "Mathura Refinery a doubtful project" ; and

(b) if so, what is the factual position in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) The Government has seen the news item. Some discussions have been held regarding reconsideration of the Mathura Refinery project. There has however, been no decision modifying the investment decision already taken by Government with regard to the project. Work on the refinery project is in progress.

Re-instatement of striking railway employees

7. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN :
SHRI M. KADERSHAH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 15,000 railway employees who were removed from service during May, 1974 strike, have not yet been taken back in service ;

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

(c) by when all the remaining employees are likely to be taken back in service ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS : (SARDAR BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c) Out of a total of about 16,500 employees whose services were dispensed with, about 11,600 have already been taken back on consideration of the individual appeals submitted by them against the punishments imposed on them. Some appeals are still under consideration and all efforts are being made to finalise them as early as possible.

Multinational firms

8. SHRI H. S. NARASIAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) which are the multinational firms that are operating in India either in public sector Private sector or joint sector :

(b) the extent and nature of their interest in the firms ; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to acquire or terminate their interests ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA) : (a) and (b) Multinational firms operating in India through majority participation in Indian companies are known as Indian subsidiaries of Foreign companies. A list of these companies is given in Statement 'A' [See Appendix XC Annexure No. 2]. A list of those multinational firms operating through their branches in India, as defined under Section 591 of the Companies Act, 1956, is given in Statement 'B' annexed. [See Appendix XC Annexure No. 3].

The extent of the interest of multinationals in Indian subsidiaries in the form of the equity capital held by them in these subsidiaries is given under Col. 5 of statement A. As regards branches of foreign companies, they are wholly owned and controlled by multinationals.

(c) Government's policy regarding private foreign capital and the branches of

companies incorporated abroad has been spelt out in the Guidelines for the administration of Section 29 of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, 1973 issued by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

Robberies on railway trains

9. SHRI H. S. NARASIAH :
SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

Will the MINISTER OF RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of robberies committed in the year 1972, 1973 and upto the end of October-1974 on trains—passenger and goods—state-wise.

(b) the extent of loss of life and property involved and number of persons arrested for such robberies during each year; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to protect the lives of passengers and theft of goods ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SARDAR BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Shares in Mysore Paper Mills

10. SHRI H. S. NARASIAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a monopoly industrial house is trying to gain control over the Government-managed Mysore Paper Mills in Bhadrnath in Karnataka State by cornering shares ; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government of India propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDAB-