

AJMER-KHANDWA RAILWAY LINE

♦178. SHRI SWAISINGH SISODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no Mail or Express trains run on the Ajmer-Khandwa line since the construction of the aforesaid line ;

(b) whether it is a fact that this line has been considered to be an economical railway line ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to run Mail and Express trains on this line in the near future ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्रालय में

उपमंत्री (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No, Sir. A pair of Express trains viz., No. 71/72 which runs as Express between Ajmer and Ratlam (and as Fast Passenger between Ratlam and Khandwa) and a pair of Express No. 15/16 Chetak Express between Ajmer and Chitorgarh, are available.

(b) Yes, but a fresh survey will be made.

(c) A decision to this effect will be taken after the fresh survey is completed.

CONVERSION OF TRIVANDRUM-ERNAKULAM LINE

*179. SHRI G. GOPINATHAN NAIR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्री be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 1465 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th December, 1970 and state :

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision on the conversion of the Trivandrum-Ernakulam metre gauge line into broad gauge ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्रालय में

उपमंत्री (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) A decision on this proposal will be taken shortly.

(b) Does not arise.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF P. W. Is. USING TROLLIES

275. DR. B. N. ANTANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Permanent Way Inspectors in the Indian Railways using trollies are required to undergo medical examinations periodically ;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the railway officers using trollies and motor trollies are not required to undergo such periodical medical examinations ; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in affirmative, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्रालय में

उपमंत्री (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The periodical medical examinations of certain categories of staff are arranged in order to ensure their continued ability in the discharge of their duties with safety depending on the nature of duties performed by them. Thus the use of trollies or motor trollies by the P. W. Is. or the Railway Gazetted Officers is not the criterion for such periodical medical examinations.

SURPLUS A. I. O. WS. OF WESTERN RAILWAY

276. DR. B. N. ANTANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्री be pleased to refer to the Answer to Unstarred Question No. 415 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st May, 1971 and state :

(a) what are the reasons for not maintaining the combined seniority list of direct recruited A. I. O. Ws. and promoted A. I. O. Ws. by the Western Railway so far ;

(b) the basis of retrenching surplus A. I. O. Ws. in the Western Railway in the absence of any combined seniority list; and

(c) what are the reasons for not specifying the dates of paying retrenchment compensation

in each case referred to in the reply to the aforesaid question ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्रालय में (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Ranker AIOWs are promoted within the sphere of Divisional Units/Survey and Construction Department whereas direct recruit AIOWs are recruited on whole Railway basis.

(b) On shrinkage of cadre, if a ranker is the juniormost, he reverts to his substantive post in the same unit whereas if a direct recruit is the juniormost in that Unit, he is rendered surplus and, unless he is juniormost on the whole Railway, he would be absorbed in place of the juniormost direct recruit A. I. O. W. on the Railway.

(c) Executive office units have prepared pay orders in favour of ex-AIOWs retrenched and associated Accounts Units have passed the vouchers to the Chief Cashier for arranging payment, which is arranged either through Executive office units or paid by Postal Money Order. Hence, actual dates of payment in many cases could not be ascertained.

CONSTRUCTION WORK CONTRACTS TO UNEMPLOYED ENGINEERS

277. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a scheme to award contracts for construction work in the railways to young and unemployed engineers in the country; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्रालय में

(SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) :

उपमंत्री :

(a) A scheme of this nature is under consideration.

(b) Details are yet to be worked out.

APPLICATIONS PENDING FOR INDUSTRIAL LICENCES

278. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री be pleased to

state :

(a) the number of applications for industrial licences recommended by the State of Tamil Nadu which are pending with Government ; and

(b) the reasons for not taking any decision on them so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/औद्योगिक विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) Out of the applications received upto the 30th June, 1971 for grant of industrial licences in Tamil Nadu, 194 are under consideration.

(b) Consideration of industrial licence applications necessitates fairly detailed examination of various aspects of the proposals. The disposal of particular applications is often delayed due to a number of reasons. Sometimes the applications do not provide complete information in the first instance and additional information is required. Occasionally policy decisions on the industries concerned are required. However, all possible steps are being taken to ensure expeditious disposal of the pending applications.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW TRAINS FOR ORISSA

279. SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new trains introduced in the country from the 1st April, 1971 ; and

(b) whether it is a fact that no new train has been introduced to benefit the State of Orissa, notwithstanding the pressing demands of the travelling public of that State ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS/रेल मंत्रालय में

उपमंत्री (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) A total of 50 trains, including 24 suburban services, have been introduced/extended from 1.4. 1971.

(b) Yes, because no such train is justified by traffic considerations except extension of No. 461/462 from Bhadrak to Puri, which has not been found possible on account of lack of capacity on Bhadrak-Khurda Road section.