

CRIME ON RAILWAYS

851. SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH
BRAR :
SHRI YELLA REDDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of murders, thefts and other crimes which took place on the Indian Railways in 1967-68 and 1968-69 up to 15th November, 1969 ; and

(b) the details of the special security measures that have been taken by Government or are under their consideration to prevent the recurrence of such crimes on the Railways ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON) : (a) A statement showing number of murder, dacoity, robbery cases etc. during the years 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70, (Upto June '69) is attached. (See Appendix LXX, Annexure No. 49.). Similar figures upto 15th November, 1969 are not available.

(b) (i) Apart from tightening up the normal Police arrangements by the Government Railway Police, such as keeping watch at important stations and periodical raids to round up criminals and anti-social elements, the State Governments of U.P., West Bengal and Bihar have taken additional security measures by way of providing escorts on important night passenger trains, introducing armed patrolling/setting up of special camps in affected areas. Railway Protection Force reinforcement has also been given to the Government Railway Police, West Bengal to augment their arrangements.

(ii) In West Bengal, Special Crime Cell has also been created with the help of the State C.I.D. and Crime Intelligence Branch of the Railway Protection Force to keep a watch and spot out criminals responsible for incidents of heinous crimes in the area.

(iii) Strict instructions have also been issued to the Railway Protection Force Staff on duty in yards or station platform for guarding railway property, to rush to the scene of crime in case of violent attacks on railway staff or passengers etc. and render all possible help to the victims.

SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION FOR PERSONS TRAVELLING WITH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

852. SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the railway officials have been instructed not to allot sleeping (berth) accommodation to the persons travelling by third class with Members of Parliament free on the strength of railway passes; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON) : (a) and (b) The Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 1969 does not provide for this facility. Hence, Railway Administration will accord this facility only on payment of the additional charge.

FAST TRAINS ON SOUTHERN RAILWAY

853. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce some fast trains on the Southern Railway ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON) : (a) and (b) For the present a proposal to introduce a fast metre gauge Diesel Rail Car service on Mysore-Bangalore section is under consideration. Trials to this end are being conducted.

SALE OF STEEL AT LOW PRICE BY IISCO

854. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that in the year 1967 the IISCO management sold good steel of about Rs. 600 per ton market price to one Indo-Japanese Trading Corporation at Rs. 300 per ton including the excise duty of Rs. 125/-;

(b) whether before being sold at this value that steel was cut into odd sizes and called 'crude coggled steel'; and

(c) whether back in 1966 there was a similar deal with the Grand Smithy