

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN TRAVELLING ON RAILWAYS

***308. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any priority is given to school children travelling on Railways for educational purposes;

(b) whether any special arrangements are made for school children travelling in groups;

(c) whether there are instructions to Railway officials to promptly attend to the requests for such arrangements; and

(d) whether any complaints of calous behaviour by senior Railway officials have been received in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) During the period educational institutions are closed, requests for special trains for student groups are given priority over other requisitions to the extent feasible.

(b) Requests for full coaches from educational institutions for parties of students are given special consideration. Compact accommodation for student parties is also arranged to the extent feasible. Every effort is made to meet the requirements of student parties proceeding on educational tours by rail.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) No, Madam.

***309. [Transferred to the 13th August, 1968.]**

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES DECLARED SURPLUS

***310. SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Railway employees declared surplus so far both in operating and mechanical sections of the Indian Railways due to the introduction of dieselisation and electrification as on 31st May, 1968; and

(b) the number of those surplus employees who have been trained and absorbed on diesel and electric locomotives and the number of persons who

have been brought from the outside market for providing training to man the diesel and electric locomotives?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

INCREASE IN PRICES OF FOOD-STUFFS IN DINING CARS AND RAILWAY RESTAURANTS

***311. SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of tea, coffee, vegetarian and non-vegetarian meals have been increased to a great extent in the dining cars on the Railways recently; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the increase in prices of food-stuffs in dining cars and railway restaurants?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) and (b) The prices of tea and coffee sold in Catering establishments on the Railways were revised and increased slightly with effect from 10th April, 1968, due to increase in the prices of ingredients like sugar, tea leaves, coffee powder, milk etc. The tariff for vegetarian and non-vegetarian meals served in Dining Cars or restaurants has not been revised recently, the last revision having been made in May, 1967.

HORLICKS FACTORY

***312. SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to start "Horlicks" factory in Amalapuram in East Godavari District;

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of the scheme;

(c) when the scheme will be implemented; and

(d) whether any team has been sent to give a report for its location?