

REFUSAL TO SUPPLY MILK FROM DINING CARS

155. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD PAHADIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that dining cars attached to different trains refuse to supply milk, even if required for babies or sick passengers ; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

DETERIORATION OF QUALITY OF FOOD AND SERVICES OF BEARERS IN DINING CARS

156. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD PAHADIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the quality of food-stuff supplied in dining cars and services of bearers therein has deteriorated considerably; and

(b) if so, the number of complaints received in this regard from March, 1965 to March, 1966 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Some complaints have been received in this connection. They have been/are being duly investigated and corrective action taken where necessary to improve the quality.

(b) The information which is under collection will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

INTERPOLATION OF GUARDS WITH HIGHER GRADE POSTS OF SMs AND ASMs

157. SHRI D. THENGARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which Guards and other categories are interpolated into the higher grade posts of SMs and ASMs thus interrupting the channel of promotion of SMs and ASMs while the SMs category is not entitled to such entry into the higher grade posts of Guards and other categories :

(b) whether any representation has been received from SMs and ASMs to discontinue the practice ; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Channel of promotion to SMs and ASMs category provided to Guards and other Transportation staff have been laid down by individual Railway Administrations on grounds of operational efficiency.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

RECOVERY OF HOUSE RENT FROM SMs AND ASMs

158. SHRI D. THENGARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the reasons for making recovery of house rent from SMs and ASMs when they are forced to reside in the Railway quarters in the interests of the Railways ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : Government's policy now is to recover rent from all categories including Class IV Staff. It is, therefore, -not possible to make any exception in this matter.

HIGHER PAY SCALES FOR A.S.Ms. PROMOTED AS S.Ms.

159. SHRI D. THENGARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the reasons for not granting higher pay scales to A.S.Ms, of grade 205—280 when promoted as a Station Master when there is marked increase in the responsibilities he is expected to discharge ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : Since the responsibilities of an A.S.M. in scale of Rs. 205—280, when posted as a S.M. in the same scale, are not deemed to have increased, the question of allotment of a higher scale to such A.S.Ms, when posted as S.Ms, does not arise.