

(c) if so, the reasons for the discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

PAY OF TRADE APPRENTICES ON S.E. RAILWAY

*232. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pay of Trade Apprentices working in the workshops on the Southern Railway has recently been reduced from Rs. 75 to Rs. 25 per month;

(b) if so, what is the total number of apprentices who were affected by the reduction; and

(c) what are the reasons for the reduction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) The stipend of these Trade Apprentices has been brought down to Rs. 25/- p.m. during the first six months of training, Rs. 40/- p.m. during the next six months, Rs. 50/- p.m. during the second year and Rs. 60/- p.m. during the third year of training.

(b) 117.

(c) To comply with the statutory provisions of the Apprentices Act, 1961, and the Apprenticeship Rules, 1962, in respect of those governed by the Act and for the sake of uniformity in the case of others.

DEMOLITION OF RAILWAY QUARTERS AT ITARSI

*233. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to demolish the residential quarters

of railway employees in the Railway Colony at Itarsi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir, it is proposed to dismantle 105 units of old temporary type of quarters constructed during the last war.

(b) The details of these quarters are as under:—

Temporary 'G' Type	..	68
Temporary 'H' Type	..	30
Temporary 'F' Type	..	2
Temporary 'J' Type	..	5
		<hr/>
TOTAL		105
		<hr/>

CONNECTION OF TALCHAR WITH SAMBALPUR OR ROURKELA

*234. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal in the Fourth Five Year Plan to connect Talchar either with Sambalpur or Rourkela with a railway line; and

(b) if so, when is it contemplated to be completed and what would be the expenditure?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH): (a) and (b) The proposals for new lines for the Fourth Plan are yet to be finalised. Linked with the ore export proposals for the Fourth Plan, from Nayagarh and Tomka-Daitari areas through Paradip Port, proposal for a railway line from Nayagarh to Paradip has been considered and the survey reports for this are under study. As an alternative to this a link from Talchar to Patasahi (on the existing Rourkela-Barsua line) and a link from Cuttack to Paradip have also been indicated. Since even the ore export programmes still