

(b) how many of them have been made permanent or put on permanent jobs elsewhere;

(c) whether they are paid uniformly all over India;

(d) what is the minimum rate of wages in the project;

(e) from how many States the workmen have complained that they are not receiving even the local minimum rate of wages and promises of absorption in permanent employment have been broken; and

(f) what steps have been taken to redress their grievances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) 9,440.

(b) 534 casual labourers have been absorbed on open line.

(c) No.

(d) No minimum wages have been prescribed on the Railway Electrification Workers are being given daily wages on the prevailing local rates. These rates are as follows :—

	Rs.
Allahabad . . .	1.75 per day
Mughalsarai . . .	1.75 per day
Chakradharpur . . .	1.73 per day
Kharagpur . . .	45.0 per month
Scaldah . . .	2.00 per day
Burdwan . . .	1.75 per day
Dehibasa . . .	1.73 per day
Nihati . . .	2.00 per day
Headquarters . . .	2.00 per day

(e) No such complaint has been received from workmen of any State so far.

(f) Does not arise.

REPRESENTATION OF FIRST CLASS COACH ATTENDANTS

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

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the first class coach attendants urging that the decision of imposing 'Safaiwalla' duties on them be reviewed; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

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

(b) In addition to other duties, the attendants are required to keep the compartments, corridors and wash-basins and mirrors clean, while the train is on the run. In regard to commodores and floor in the bath-rooms, the attendants are not expected to do any cleaning themselves but they are to ensure that they are cleaned by the staff kept for this purpose at different stations. There is no proposal to revise these instructions.

APPEAL OF KALYAN POWER HOUSE STAFF REGARDING INCREASED DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

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

(a) whether the staff of the Kalyan Power House made a joint appeal demanding increased dearness allowance and other benefits; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) and (b) No representation demanding increased dearness allowance has been received. Representation has however been received for grant of Compensatory (City) and House Rent Allowances, Night duty allowance, Revision of scales of operators and creation of some posts of Senior operators. This is being looked into.

DHARMANAGAR-SABROOM RAILWAY LINE

269. SHRI T. M. DASGUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is considering the proposal for extension of Railway line from Dharmaganagar (Tripura) to Sabroom via Agartala, in stages; and

(b) if so, when the preliminary survey for the same is expected to be taken up and upto what place ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH) : (a) and (b) The Chief Minister, Tripura, has been pressing for the extension of the Railway line beyond Dharmanagar. In view of this and other demands, the Planning Commission has recently organised a Transport survey of Tripura, Manipur and North Assam. Based on the results of this survey, appropriate consideration will be given to the proposal for further extension of the Railway line inside Tripura, in conjunction with the Planning Commission, while finalising the Fourth Plan proposals.

NEW THIRD CLASS EXPRESS TRAIN BETWEEN DELHI AND BOMBAY

270. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a third class express train is likely to be run between Delhi and Bombay V. T. on the Central Railway from 1st April, 1965; and

(b) whether it is a fact that a persistent demand by Members of Parliament and the public is made for some years for such a train ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No. The introduction of an additional train between Delhi and Bombay V. T. is not feasible at present, for want of spare line capacity on this route.

(b) Yes.

मुकामेह पुल के लिए खतरा

271. श्री महावीर दास : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान पटना से प्रकाशित होने वाले "दी इंडियन नेशन" दिनांक 1 जनवरी, 1965 में मुखपृष्ठ पर

कालम 6 में प्रकाशित "थ्रेट टु मुकामेह ब्रिज फियर्ड : गंगा इरोजन" शीर्षक वाले समाचार की ओर आकर्षित किया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या पुल का खतरा है और उसके बचाव के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या उपाय किये गये हैं अथवा किये जा रहे हैं ?

‡[DANGER TO MOKAMEH BRIDGE

271. SHRI MAHABIR DASS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item on page 1, of "The Indian Nation" dated the 1st January, 1965 published from Patna under the caption "Threat to Mokameh Bridge Feared : Ganga Erosion"; and

(b) if so, whether there is any danger to the bridge and what measures have been taken or are being taken by Government for its protection ?]

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री शाम नाथ) :

(क) जी हां ।

(ख) गंगा नदी पर राजेन्द्र पुल को कोई खतरा नहीं है । 1961 की बाढ़ के बाद से गंगा नदी बायीं ओर हटने लगी है और यह रुख अभी कायम है । नदी के बहाव पर कड़ी निगरानी रखी जा रही है और इस सम्बन्ध में एक विस्तृत सर्वेक्षण का काम शुरू किया गया है ।

‡[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH) : (a) Yes.

(b) There is no danger to the Rajendra Pul over river Ganges. Following the floods of 1961 the river Ganges has shown a tendency to shift towards the left bank

‡[] English translation.