

(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. RANI 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
Kharaeapur	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 :

(.) 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 commodes 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 Dharma-nagar (Tripura) to Sabroom via Agartala, in stages; and