

Chakradharpur-Nagpur passenger train was being admitted on the loop line at Rajnandgaon station of South Eastern Railway, it collided with a light engine standing on the same line. The cause of the accident is under investigation by the Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety. There was no loss of life. The cost of damage to the railway property was approximately Rs. 250.

SUGGESTIONS ON TOURISM

•64. SHRI OM MEHTA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Mr. John B. Gates, Vice-Chairman of the International Hotels Corporation, at a press conference in New Delhi admitted that tourism was a multi-pronged industry and following reasons were responsible for not attracting large number of tourists in this country;

- (i) lack of good hotels and accommodation;
- (ii) limited opportunities for contacting people, due to prohibition;
- (iii) paper formalities to be gone through at the point of embarkation; and
- (iv) lack of air-conditioned auditorial and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take on these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir. Reports to this effect have appeared in the Press.

(b) The Government, being aware of a few of these difficulties, appointed in March, 1963 an *ad hoc* committee to enquire and suggest ways and means of expanding tourist traffic. The Report of the Committee was submitted on the 23rd August, 1963 and the principal recommendations have been accepted by the Government. Steps are being taken by the Government to implement the important recommendations of that committee.

SPECIAL TRAINS FROM POONA TO VASCO-DA-GAMA

/ SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: • \ SHRI M. M. DHARIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that special trains were promised to be run from Poona to Vasco-da-Gama on the Southern Railway for the Marathi Sahitya Sammelan at Margao on the 8th, 9th and 10th May, 1964; and

(b) if so, how many trains were run and when they were run?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Two special trains were run on the 7th May, 1964.

SCARCITY OF RICE IN CALCUTTA

/SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: ° • \ SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to reports in the Calcutta Press about scarcity of rice in Calcutta's retail and fair price shops;

(b) if so, whether he has asked for detailed reports about the scarcity; and

(c) what assistance from the Centre has been asked for and/or given to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No special assistance for this purpose is at present required.

PROCUREMENT PRICES OF FOODGRAINS

•67. SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the policy

of Central Government regarding the fixation of procurement prices of wheat, rice, jowar and bajra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE in THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): The Government of India have fixed procurement prices for rice only. They have not fixed procurement prices for other foodgrains as they have no proposal to procure them.

■CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ON PANCHAYATI RAJ

*68. SHRI BANSI LAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION be pleased 'to state;

(a) the names of persons nominated by the Union Government to serve on Consultative Council on Panchayati Raj; and

(b) the criterion on which these nominations were made?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI B. S. MURTHY): (a) A state ment showing the composition of the Consultative Council on Panchayati Raj is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The main criterion was to make the Council represent a wide cross section of public opinion, for promoting the objectives of Panchayati Raj and to advise the Ministry on suitable policies in this regard.

STATEMENT

Composition of the Consultative Council on Panchayati Raj

(i) Chairman—

Shri S. K. Dey, Union Minister of Community Development and Co-operation.

(ii) Members—

(1) Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, All India Panchayat Parishad, New Delhi.

(2) Shri Balwantray G. Mehta, Chief Minister, Gujarat.

- (3) Shri V. P. Naik, Chief Minister, Maharashtra.
- (4) Shri M. L. Sukhadia, Chief Minister, Rajasthan.
- (5) Shri E. M. S. Namboodripad, M.L.A., Kerala.
- (6) Shri B. Patnaik, M.L.A., Orissa.
- (7) Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.
- (8) Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Union Minister for Agriculture, New Delhi.
- (9) Shri F. A. Ahmed, Finance Minister, Assam.
- (10) Shri Ramakrishna Hegde, Minister for CD&C, Mysore.
- (11) Shri S. N. Mishra, Minister for Panchayati Raj, West Bengal.
- (12) Shri Shriman Narayan, Member, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
- (13) Shri Tarlok Singh, Member, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
- (14) Shri B. S. Murthy, Union Deputy Minister of Community Development.
- (15) Shri S. D. Misra, Union Deputy Minister of Co-operation.
- (16) Shri Jagmohan Das, M.L.A., Madhya Pradesh.
- (17) Shri V. B. Raju, Hyderabad.
- (18) Shri Kumbha Ram Arya, President, Rajasthan Panchayati Raj Sangh, Jaipur.
- (19) Shri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar, Shri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya, Coimbatore.
- (20) Shri Behari Prasad, President, Pachaura Gram Panchayat, Patna Distt; Bihar.
- (21) Shri D. R. Gadgil, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona.
- (22) Shri M Y. Ghorpade, M.L.A, Mysore.
- (23) Dr. J. N. Khosla, Indian Institute of Public Administration.