

STATEMENT

The Ministry of Railways have issued orders laying down that, for purposes of seniority, the medically unfitted staff who are absorbed in other categories should be placed below those who are in receipt of the same rate of pay in the grade on the date of their absorption.

There are also other staff who may not be specifically medically unfitted but in whose cases the medical authorities may advise that they should be transferred to some other post in the interest of the administration as well as in the interest of the individuals. In regard to this category of staff, no specific orders have been issued by the Ministry of Railways. Each Railway is following its own practice.

In regard to those staff who seek transfer to other jobs of their own accord (supported by a medical certificate), the practice which is followed on the Railways is generally that they are placed below all permanent and officiating employees on the date of their absorption in the grade.

ROAD RAILERS

*535. SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of the proposals and the likely cost involved in introduction of road railers in selected zones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): The technical and other aspects of road-railers as in use in other countries, are proposed to be examined to determine if, and how best, such vehicles can be adapted for use in India.

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES OVER THE JAMUNA

*536. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the construction of three more bridges over the Jamuna during the Third Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, at which places these bridges will be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

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On National Highways, a bridge across the Jamuna, near Humayun's Tomb, in Delhi, is under construction. On roads other than National Highways, three more Bridges across the Jamuna river have also been sanctioned with Central Government assistance, (i) at Paonta, in Himachal Pradesh, (ii) at Kairana, in U. P. and (iii) at Wazirabad near Delhi.

The last-mentioned bridge is already under construction.

CAUSE OF FLOODS IN THE SOUTH

*539. SHRI P. N. RAJABHOJ: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the criticism made in newspapers to the effect that the recent floods in the South are due to large scale deforestation in Kerala and Coorg;

(b) if so, how far the criticism is based on facts; and