

the number of dining cars which are managed on licence by Messrs Bran-den and Company; and

(b) whether the refreshment stalls or dining cars are licensed or auctioned every year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) One Refreshment Room and Restaurant Cars on six pairs of trains.

(b) No, Sir. These contracts are licensed and not auctioned and the licenses are generally for three years in the case of Refreshment Rooms and five years in the case of Restaurant Cars.

PULLING OF ALARM CHAINS BY RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*346. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN; Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some times railway employees are responsible for unauthorised alarm chain pullings in railway trains; and

(b) if so what steps are taken Against such employees?

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

(b) They are liable to be arrested and prosecuted under Section 108 of Indian Railways Act, 1890. In addition, they are also liable for departmental action. In the past they were dealt with departmentally. Instructions have, however, been issued recently that they should also be prosecuted.

'ALL ORISSA TRANSPORT USERS' ASSOCIATION

*347. SHRI BAIRAGI DWIBEDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an association called the 'All Orissa Transport Users' Association has been registered; and

(b) whether a representative of the Association is getting a place in the Zonal Committee of the South Eastern Railway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) The Government is aware of the existence of such an Association. Whether it has been registered is under verification.

(b) The nominations to the Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee of the South Eastern Railway have not yet been finalised.

DRAFTSMEN OF THE EASTERN|SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY

*348. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway Board received any communication in November, 1959 from the General Manager, Eastern Railway and | or South-Eastern Railway regarding the recruitment of temporary Draftsmen in regular service;

(b) whether the communication related to the waiving of the rule for the recruitment of draftsmen through the Railway Service Commission; and

(c) what position the Railway Board took in regard to the Communication?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It was decided that the condition stipulated at the time the staff in question were locally recruited by the Railway Administration should not now be waived.