

(a) whether all the categories of Railway Audit staff are entitled to the privilege of passes and P.T.O.s. on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to the Railway servants or only a certain category of employees; and

(b) if the reply to the earlier part be in the negative, what are the categories of such employees of Railway Audit Staff who are granted these facilities of free passes and P.T.O.s.?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) Does not arise.

Houses owned by Railway Employees

913. Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that no Government employee owning a residential house in Delhi within 16 Kilometres of the place of duty will be provided with Government accommodation;

(b) if so, whether the Railway Board have also decided to follow this decision in respect of residential houses under the control of the Railway Department; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken to get these houses vacated to meet the acute shortage of Government accommodation in the Capital?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Detailed instructions are being issued.

Textile Delegation to Japan

914. Shri Jashvant Mehta: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high-power 8-men textile delegation headed by Shri R. A. Potdar went to Japan for study tour; and

(b) if so, whether the delegation has submitted any report to Government?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

New Railway Lines

915. Shri E. S. Pandey: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposals from the various State Governments regarding the construction of new railway lines during the Fourth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether Madhya Pradesh Government have also submitted proposals; and

(c) if so, what consideration is being given to these proposals?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath):

(a) to (c). So far the State Governments have not been asked to send their recommendations for new lines to be taken up during the Fourth Plan. However, some State Governments have, on their own, submitted certain proposals. No such proposals from Madhya Pradesh Government have been received.

The proposals that have been already received/may be received in future, when called for, will be given due consideration at the appropriate time, while finalising the lists of new lines for the Fourth Plan, in conjunction with the Planning Commission.