

(b) whether Government have received any memorandum requesting to convert the Rail level platform into raised platform ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government on the memorandum ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI NANDA) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Raised platforms at stations are provided on a programmed basis as approved by the Railway Users' Amenities Committee who decide the priority for such works taking into account the comparative needs of other stations. The request for raised platform at Kotikulam will be put up to the Railway Users' Amenities Committee and if approved by them, the work will be included in future Works Programme as and when funds can be made available.

Separate Electorate for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

1239. SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI :
SHRIMATI SUSEELA
GOPALAN :
SHRI K. RAMANI :
SHRI MUHAMMAD SHERIFF :
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :

Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering any separate electorate for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE
(SHRI M. YUNUS SALEEM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government do not feel the necessity of making any special provisions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in this regard.

Memorandum to General Manager by Guards Council, Northeast Frontier Railway Zone

1240. SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 12th January, 1970 a delegation of Guards Council, Northeast Frontier Railway Zone met the General Manager and submitted a memorandum ;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of that memorandum ; and

(c) what steps have been taken to mitigate the grievances of the Guards of the Northeast Frontier Railway Zone ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI NANDA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the Memorandum are :

(i) Running Allowance on working short branch sections of goods Trains.

(ii) Upgrading of Parcel Trains.

(iii) Alleged deteriorating condition of running rooms.

(iv) Demand for payment of arrears of Guards in respect of over-time, mileage allowance etc.

(v) Manning of Mail/Express Trains by 'A' Grade Guards.

(vi) Upgrading of Guards of 20IUP/202 DN passenger trains running between Silchar and Gauhati.

(vii) Provision of brakemen of passenger trains.

(c) The Railway Administration are having the demands examined on their merits and appropriate action will be taken as may be necessary.