

4. As a further measure about 2,000 R.P.F. personnel have been deployed on escorting duties in passenger trains to deter criminals and instil confidence among the travelling public.

Ships of Mogul Lines operating from Bombay to Goa

2789. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being proposed to rationalise the size of the ships of the Mogul lines operating from Bombay to Goa so as to cover more ports and also ensure greater number of passengers; and

(b) whether there is any move to implement these steps in a time bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) and (b): It is proposed to continue the existing vessels of the Mogal line Limited, viz. 'M.V. Konkan Sewak' and 'M.V. Konkan Shakti' operating between Bombay and Panaji. These vessels will continue to cover 4 Ports on the Konkan Coast, namely Jaigad, Musakazi/Jaitapur, Vijaydurg and Deoged. These vessels cannot call at more Ports since that would affect the daily sailings between Bombay and Panaji.

Disparity in wages of Indian labour in Arab Countries

2790. SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Indian labourers in Arabian countries are paid less wages as compared to labourers of other Asian countries together with the reasons therefor; and

(b) the action taken by Government to stop this kind of discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Recruitment of Indian labour for working abroad is done from open market by foreign employers through recruiting agents. In terms of a Supreme Court order dated March 20, 1979, the Government exercises no authority for specifying wage levels for such workers. Forces of open market competition, therefore, determine the level of wages. However, wages of Indian workers compare favourably with wages available in these countries to workers from other South Asian countries.

(b) Information regarding conditions prevailing in the West Asian countries being made known so that our workers are aware of the minimum wage levels which they may accept. It is proposed to introduce new legislation on emigration, providing for fixation of minimum terms and conditions of employment abroad. This matter is under active consideration.

Double Decker Trains

2791. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of those routes on which double decker trains are being operating at present;

(b) the percentage increase in passenger traffic in comparison with the increased capacity;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to start more double decker trains; and

(d) if so, the names of those routes on which these will be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Double-decker coaches have been provided on 309/310 Bombay-Pune Sinhagad Express, 21/22 Bombay-Surat Flying Raneer, 39/40 Madras-Bangalore Brindavan Express and between Bombay Central