

Good Quality Cricket Ball

1895. SHRI R. R. BHOLE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that good quality cricket balls are still not being manufactured in our country and this fact was established when during the last Test in Delhi between India and England in December, 1981, three balls were changed in just two overs; and

(b) steps Government propose to take to avoid such unhappy incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHELLA KAUL): (a) and (b) Full information is being collected from the Board of Control for Cricket in India and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Late Running of Trains

1896. SHRI ANANTHA RAMULU MALLU

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have noticed the unsatisfactory punctuality of trains at present; and

(b) if so, what effective steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) Efforts are being made to improve maintenance of infrastructural assets and minimise avoidable cases of engine failure signal failures-defects and other factors. A drive is also

on to reduce the number of accidents lead to late running of trains. General Managers are paying attention to matter pertaining to punctual running of trains. Necessary liaison with the concerned State Governments in being maintained by various Zonal Administration and the Ministry of Railways for arresting the incidence of alram chain pulling, hose-pipe disconnection and other miscreant activities.

Invasion of Hawkers, Beggars and Diseased People in Compartments of Mail Trains

1897. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to save the passengers of the three-tier compartments particularly Mail trains, from the invasion of hawkers, beggars, and diseased people which goes on till late at night?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Every effort is made by the Railway Administration to check hawkers, baggars and diseased people nuisance in trains and stations. Special drives are launched with the assistance of Ticket Checking staff, Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police to prevent the entry of hawkers, beggars and diseased people at the station and to evict them from stations and trains. The unauthorised hawkers, beggars and diseased people are also dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Railway Act, 1890.

Concessions given to Handicapped Students

1898. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details regarding the nature of concessions issued by the Education and Social Welfare Ministry