

(c) amount spent by the Railway to contest these suits;

(d) how many suits were decreed against administration and whether responsibility was fixed against staff for wasting national revenue; and

(e) number of suits pending in Courts in Bombay and Ahmedabad and present position thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) (c), (d) and (e). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) It is not correct that any employees had to file suits on account of wrong policies of the Government.

**Promotion policy of Commercial Inspectors etc.**

5289. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any uniform promotion policy for Claims Tracers, Assistant Commercial Inspectors and Commercial Inspectors employed in all Zonal Railways; if not reasons thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Western Railway is not implementing the general directives issued by the Railway Board for formation of a separate cadre for Claims Inspector; and

(c) if so, reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Avenues of promotion for non-gazetted staff on the Indian Railways are decided by the Railways themselves generally in consultation with the Organised Labour according to local conditions. It is therefore not considered necessary to lay down any uniform avenue

or promotion applicable to all zonal Railways.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**Number of Claims Tracers**

5290. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of Claims Tracer/ Assistant Commercial Inspectors and Commercial Inspectors on Indian Railways-Grade-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that Claims Tracer is part of Claims Branch;

(c) if so, why their strength is not taken into account at the time of upgradation in Commercial Inspector cadre; and

(d) reasons thereof;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

**Railway catering rates**

5291. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the catering rates were revised and increased in Railways during last three years; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not increasing travelling allowance of employees?

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