

(b) The requirement of wagons on Indian Railways is worked out on the anticipated development of traffic during a Five Year Plan period and annual procurement is undertaken to suitably phase out the production load. There is, therefore, no fixed requirement of wagons as such.

The present installed capacity in the country is sufficient to meet the internal as well as export demands.

(c) Does not arise.

Keeriakitti Kerappan Irrigation scheme, Kerala

2197. SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the urgent need for taking up Keeriakitti Kerappan Irrigation Scheme in Palghat District, Kerala;

(b) if so, the main features of the Scheme;

(c) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Members of Parliament from Kerala regarding this issue; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) to (d). Some Members of Parliament urged the undertaking of the Keeriakitti Kerappan irrigation scheme. Since no proposals have been received about this project, enquiry was made from the Government of Kerala who have indicated that investigations for this project are, about

to be completed and that the project report and estimates are under preparation.

Re-instatement of casual labourers of Ernakulam Railway Station (Southern Railway)

2198. SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of casual labourers have been retrenched in the Ernakulam Junction Railway Station, Kerala recently ;

(b) if so, the total number of workers retrenched ;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to re-instate them or absorb them in alternative jobs ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAJIYA) : (a) and (b). 273 casual labourers were discharged on completion of the construction of the Marshalling Yard near Ernakulam.

(c) and (d). 20 casual labourers have been re-engaged. The rest cannot be re-engaged at present as there is no work in that area. They will be absorbed when new works are taken in hand.

Regularisation of appointment of senior casual labourers as substitute gangmen under P.W.I. Kalupara Ghat (South-Eastern Railway)

2199. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are 50 senior casual labourers working as substitute Gangman under P.W.I., Kalupara Ghat on South-