Oral Answers

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Starting his parliamentary career in 1952, Shri Patil served as a Member of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1952 to 1955 and Maharashtra Legislative Assembly from 1957 to 1962 and thereafter of the Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1970. He served as the Chairman of tire "National Seeds Corporation from 1971 tp 1974. Shri Patil was elected to this House in 1974. A very active and keen debater, Shri Patil always made his presence felt in the House with his forceful speeches and was alway_s in the forefront to plead the cause of Harijans, agricultural labourers and the rural down-trodden.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Nafisul Hasa'n, Shri P.S. Patil and Shri Deorao Patil.

I would request Members to rise in their places and observe ^a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence jor one minute).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-Gen-' eral will convey to the members of the bereaved families our sense ₀f profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Chairman and Member Secretaries in the Railway Service Commissions

*1. SHRI PRASENJIT BARMANf: SHRI AHMED HOSSAIN MANDAL: SHRIMATI PRATIMA BOSE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Chairmen and Member Secretaries in the Zonal Railway Service Commissions; and

[†]The question was actually asked on th_e floor of th_e House by Shri Prasenjit Barman.

to Questions

(b) the number out of them who belong to the Scheduled Castes a'nd the Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid down o_n the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (h) There are 14 posts of 'Chairmen' and 'Member-Secretaries' in the Railway Service Commissio'ns on the Railways. Out of these 12 posts are already filled _Dut of which 4 are held by persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. The names of two more candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tirbes have been recommended to the UPSC for the posts of Chairman and Member-Secretary of the Gauhati Railway Service Commission. Thus, out of 14 posts of Chairmen and Member-Secretaries, 6 posts will be held by persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Communities. In addition, one post of Chairman is held by a person belonging to a minority community .

SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN: Sir, in statement it has been mentioned that six posts will be held by persons belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities. May I know from the hon. Minister how many out of these six persons belong to the Scheduled Castes and how many to the Scheduled Tribes? Further I would also like to know whether such appointments of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Chairmen and Member-Secretaries on the Railway Service Commissions has brought improvement in the conditions of service for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, particularly in the matter of appointments and more particularly in filling up the back-log of vacancies reserved for. these communities.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, in the main body of the reply, I have already explained that six out of 14

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posts of Chairmen and Member-Secretaries two, of course, are vacant: 12 are filled upwill be held by people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. One among them belongs to the Scheduled Tribes; the other five belong to the Scheduled Castes. And I am very happy to say that in the new service commission which has been set up recently at Gauhati, we have seen to it that both the posts, the post of Chairman as well as the post of Member-Secretary, go to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. We have seen to it that as far as the service conditions are concerned, they are very rigorously enforced and there will be no discrimination

SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN: May I know ifrom the¹ hon. Minister whether such appointments of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Chairmen and Member-Secretarie3 have been made only on caste considerations or they are also otherwise qualified to become Chairman and Member-Secretaries?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: While selecting the concerned members we do not look only to the caste aspect of the appointments, i am very happy to say that even if a test of merit is applied to those members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe_s who have been appointed, in some cases they may be rated even higher than the others. Therefore, we have not at all relaxed anything as far as the merit aspect is concerned.

भो रामानन्द य।दव : श्रीमन्, सरकार ने बताया कि 14 जगहें हैं चेयरमैन और मैम्बर सेकेटरीज के लिए । इनमें से 12 को भर दिया गया है । 12 में से 4 शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के लोग हैं । 14 जगहों पर 6 ग्रादमी शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के होंगे । मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हं कि 14 आदमियों को ग्रभी तक सरकार ने इन कमीशनों में भरा है तो क्या कारण है कि दो जो छोड़े गये हैं उनमें शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट ग्रीर शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के लोग नहीं मिले हैं। इतना विलम्ब शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट ग्रीर शड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के नामिनेशन में क्यों सरकार करती है। क्या कारण है कि आज तक इतना विलम्ब हम्रा ?

दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि माइनारिटीज को भी सरकार शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट श्रौर शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइध्ज में इनक्लूड करती है या ये अलग से लिये गये हैं, यह मैं जानना चाहता हं।

श्री० मबुदण्डवते: जहां तक माइना-रिटीज का सवाल है, अपर तफ़सील लेना चाहें तो..

श्वी रामानन्द यादव : मेरे पहले प्रश्न का जवाब पहले दीजिए कि 14 झादमियों में 12 ग्रादमियों को लिया है जिनमें से 4 शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के हैं। 6 देने चाहिए थे 14 में। तो क्या कारण है कि दो शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट झौर शैड्-यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के लोगों को खोजने में, झपाईट करने में इतना विलम्ब किया जा रहा है?

प्रो० मध दण्डवतेः पहले मैं आपकी गलतफ़हमी निकाल देना चाहता हं। जो 6 शैड्युल्ड कास्ट ग्रीर शैड्युल्ड ट्राइब्ज नियुक्त किये गये हैं उनमें से नई सरकार झाने के बाद 5 शैड्युल्ड कास्ट श्रीर शैड्युल्ड ट्राइब्ज उसमें ग्रपाइंट हुए । दूसरी बात यह है कि दो लोगों को नियक्त करने में देरी नहीं लगी है। जैसा मैंने ग्रापको बताया कि गौहाटी सविस कमीशन अभी ही इनग्रोग्यरेट हम्रा है ग्रीर उसके बारे में हमारी सिफ़ारिश हमको यनियन पव्लिक सर्विस कमीशन के सामने भेजनी पडती हैं । ग्राज ही उनका उत्तर हमारे पास ग्रा गया है कि वह क्लियर कर रहे हैं इन अपाइन्टमेंट्स को । हमारी ओर से कोई देरी नहीं है। हमने यह देखा है कि जहां रिजवेंशन की गुंजाइश नहीं है, न होते हए भी हमने वहां ऐसा किया है। श्रगर ग्राप देखें तो 14 में से 7 वीकर सेवशन और माइनोरिटीज के हैं। गैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और मेड्यूल्ड ट्राइय्स के 6

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हैं ब्रौर माइनोरिटीज का एक है । यह मैं ब्रापको बताना चाहता हूं कि 14 में से 7 वीकर सेक्शन और माइनारिटी के हैं ।

अो राम्तानन्द यादव : यह बताइये कि इन दो ग्रापाएंटमेंट के लिये ग्रापने कमीशन के पास भेजा है ?

प्रो० सबु दण्डवते : मैंने आपको बताया है चन्द महीने पहले ही रेलवे सर्विस कमीशन गोहाटी के पास से कार्रवाई मुकम्मल होने पर हमने ग्रागे भेजा है । ग्रव यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन के पास से हमारे पास क्लींय-रेस ग्राई है । वह मैंने इंडीकेट किया है ।

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: The position of the Secretary in the Railway Service Commission has completely been diluted and at present the Secretaries of the Railway Service Commissions and the Board are not having any power. Therefore, I am not at all enamoured when the Minister says that he has been able to find some merited Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe members to fill up the posts of Secretaries. I would like to know whether there is any policy with the Railway Board to have a member of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Board itself. If that cannot be done since the reservation quota in the Railways is not filled up properly, particularly in Classes I and II, may I know whether the post of CPO-Chief Personnel Officer-would be given to these people so that they can safeguard their interests properly?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE; As far as the Railway Service Commis sion is concerned, it has got full powers and the Railway Board cannot interfere with the working of the Railway Service Commission. Therefore, if Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe and minority community members are to be selected there are full powers. In fact, the powers possessed by the Chairman of the Railway Service Commission, as far as appointments are concerned, are more than the powers of the Railway Board, are more than the powers of the Railway Minister. In fact, I have made it clear that the Railway Minister cannot interfere with the appointments; nor can be recommend; nor direct. It is only the Railway Service Commission which is the sole authority to go into the problem of recruitment.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: The Chief Personnel Officer is the main person who recruits, not the Service Commission. Can the Minister say if he is having any plans to have the CPO from these communities?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: This problem is completely different from the one that is raised in the question. It is related to the Railway Service Commission appointments.

श्वी योगेन्द्र शर्मा : मान्यवर, मन्त्री महोदय से मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या उनकी रेलवे सर्विस कमीशन केवल मर्दाना है ? ग्रापकी रेलवे सर्विस कमीशन जो है वह केवल मर्दाना है क्योंकि वह हमेशा वीकर सैंक्शन की बात करता है । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि वह वीकर सैंक्स की बात क्यों नहीं करता ? क्या वीकर सैंक्स वीकर सैंक्शन में शामिल नहीं है ? हम समझते है कि सामाजिक स्थिति, शैक्षणिक स्थिति ग्रौर दूसरी स्थितियों को यदि हम विचार में लायें तो वीकर सैंक्स हमारे समाज में वीकेस्ट है । क्या ग्राप अपने मर्दाना पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन के सामने इस नुक्ते को भी रखने की कोशिश करेंगे ?

प्रो० मधु दण्डवते : मैंने जान बूझ कर . रेलवे सविम कमोशन को मर्दाना नहीं बनाया । आप महिलाग्रों को वीकर सैक्शन कहते हैं लेकिन खुद महिलाएं अपने को वीकर सैक्शन मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं हैं । यह इमरजेंसी का अनुभव है कि महिला अपने को वीकर सैक्शन में नहीं मानती । यह बात अलग है कि हम लोग जो नियुक्ति करेंगे रिकमेन्डेशन करेंगे, जो कंस्ट्रविटव सुझाव है उसकी तरफ ध्यान देंगे । SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: The honourable Minister has mentioned about the number of the Chairmen of the Railway Service Commissions. I would like to know from the honourable Minister the total number of Members of these various Commissions and out of these Members how many members belong to the minority communities and how many Secretaries of the Commissions belong to the minority communities, what their number was before 1977 and what their number now is.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE; I have already mentioned that there are 14 Members—Chairmen as well as Member-Secretaries. One of them belongs to the minority communities, that is, Muslims. The others belong to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. As far as the composition is concerned, that is already given to you.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: The honourable Minister has said that recently on establishing a Railway Service Commission at Gauhati he has added two more Members. It is a wellknown fact that Gauhati area is mostly of tribals. Therefore, in the fitness of things, two should have been added. That does not indicate that proper an adequate representation has been given to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes coming from other areas. May I, therefore, know from the hon. Minister whether he will be taking this fact into consideration and add two more members coming from other areas* especially from Karnataka which has not been representated on any Railway Public Service Commission?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE-. We do not make representation State-wise, How many factors are to be taken into consideration? We have to consider the weaker sections. We have to take into account the minority aspect. We have also to take note of

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merit and I do not think the hon. Member will have any difference ol opinion on this issue. In addition, he has made a concrete suggestion. Am far as Gauhati is concerned, both the members whom we had recommended and almost accepted belong to the weaker sections-one from the Scheduled Castes and other from th« Scheduled Tribes. The hon. Member made a reference to Karnataka. I do not want to mention any names. But as far as the Railway Service Commission for the South Central zone, functioning from Secunderabad is concerned, one member comes from Andhra and the other one from the Karnataka region. This is only by way of information and not to say that one will look after the interests of Andhra Pradesh and the other will look after the interests of Karnataka.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: I was asking about the Scheduled Castes members.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE; As far as Scheduled Caste members- are concerned, if we take the weaker sections and minorities, for the first time in this country fifty per cent of the Commission consists of weaker sections and minorities. We cannot distribute them. Where vacancies are available, they will be appointed.

श्री इयामलाल यादव : श्रीमन, मैं यह जानना चाहता हं कि रेलवे पब्लिक स्विस कमीशनों के पास जो इतनी दर्खास्तें पडी रहती हैं और इस प्रकार से जो दो दो साल तक फैलले नहीं हो पाते हैं उनको निपटाने के लिये क्या इन पदों में कोई वृद्धि की जाएगी? मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हं कि अगर इस प्रकार से एक एक मेम्बर के कमीशन्स बनाए जाएंगे तो उनसे काम का निपटारा जल्दी नहीं हो पाएगा। दूसरी बात ग्रापने यह कहीं कि कमी जन के झध्यक्ष के पद पर एक अल्प संख्यक समुदाय का व्यक्ति नियक्त है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हं कि क्या यह सही नहीं है कि यह व्यक्ति सन् 1977 है पहले से ही नियक्त है, उसके बाद इस प्रकार की कोई नियक्ति नहीं की गई है?

प्रो० मधु दण्डवते : मान्यवर, यह बात सही है कि वर्धों तक चन्द रेलवे पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशनों पर काम का काफी बोझ पड़ता रहा है। इसलिए पिछले एक साल के प्रन्दर दो नये रेलवे पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन कायम किये गये हैं। एक तो सिकन्दराबाद में शुरू किया गया है और दूसरा गोहाटी में बनाया गया है। चूंकि इन कमीशनों पर काम का काफी बोझ पड़ता है, इसलिए इसको हल करने के लिए एक्जामिनेशन सिस्टम में सुधार लाने की कोशिश की जा रही है और इसके लिए रूत्स में और कार्यपढति में कुछ तबदीलियां की गई है। हमें उम्मीद है कि आगे आने वाले सालों में इन कमीशनों की कार्य-क्षमता में काफी सुधार हो सकेगा।

श्री क्यामलाल यावष : आपने मेरे दूसरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं दिया है । अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय का जो व्यक्ति नियुक्त किया गया है, क्या यह सही है कि वह सन् 1977 से पहले नियुक्त हो चुका था और उसके बाद कोई नियक्ति नहीं की गई है?

प्रो० सबु दण्डवते : ग्रसल में वात यह है कि हर रेलवे पब्लिक सविस का एक चेयरमैन होता है और एक मेस्बर-सेकेटरी होता है और उनका टेन्योर छ: साल का होता है । जब इनकी जगह खाली होती है तो उस वक्त इस प्रकार की बातों पर विचार कर सकते हैं । जैसा मैंने बताया है. जो नये पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन बनाये गये हैं उनमें इन वातों का ध्यान रखा गया है । इसी दुष्टि से माइनोरिटीज के बारे में भी जब जगह खाली होती हैं तो हम जरूर विचार करेंगे ।

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: The Minister said, that as -far as Gauhati is concerned, two members will be from these communities—one from the Scheduled Castes and the other from the Scheduled Trbies. What is the present position? Is there anybody from these communities at present?

to Question*

प्रो० मखु दख्खकते : इस सम्बन्ध में जन तक यूनियन पब्लिक संविस कमीशन का क्लीयरेंस नहीं होता है तब तक काम शुरू नहीं हो पाता है । जो दूसरे आफिस वियर्स होते हैं वही काम करते रहते हैं । ग्राज ही हमारे पास यूनियन पब्लिक संविस कमीशन की क्लोयेरेन्स ग्राई है और हम ग्राशा करते हैं कि ग्रागे कोई दिक्कत नहीं होगी और वे लोग ग्रापना चार्ज ले सकेंगे ।

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: The Minister has been talking about the weaker sections. I think the single largest weaker section is women. I would like to know whether the Minister will consider the question of giving representation to women in the Railway Service Commissions so that at least fifty per cent of the country'ji populatiqn is represented there.

AN HON. MEMBER: On a point of order

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANT; Does the Chairman accept that women belong to the weaker section?

SHRI DEVENDRA NATH DWI-VEDI: Husbands will have to be consulted on whether they belong to the weaker section.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The effective manner in which the hon. lady Member functions in the House does not admit that women belong to the weaker section at all. Anyway, Sir, the suggestion that has been made by the hon. Member and also by the other hon. Members will be kept in mind. But there cannot be a statutory provision for a definite percentage of reservation.

DR. V. P. DUTT: "Weaker" should be substituted by "softer".

श्रीमती मैमूना सुल्तान : रेलवे मिनिस्टर ने अभे: इस बात को जोर देकर कहा है कि

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रेलवे सर्विस कमीशन माइनारिटीज के लिये मुलाजमत के बारे में खास ख्याल रखती है। तो मैं वह पूछना चाहती टूं कि ग्रापने जो यह पालिसी वनाई है माइनारिटीज के लोगों को ज्ञामिल करने की उसमें परसन्टेज क्या मुकरंर I mean in regard to employment or appointments vis-a-vis different Commissions or jobs in the railways!

प्रो० मज दण्डवते : जहां तक रेलवे सर्विस कमीशन का सवाल है वहां पर वीकर सेक्शन या माइनारिटीज के लोगों के लिये रिजवेंशन की कोई गुंजाइश नहीं है। तमाम बातों को ख्याल में रख कर उनको जो नियक्त किया गया है वह किसी रिजर्वेशन के झाधार पर नहीं किया गया है । जहां तक जाँव्स का सवाल है क्लास 3 के जो जाब हैं उनका रिकटमेंट रेलवे सर्विस कमीणन के जरिये होता है और जो चन्यं श्रेणी के जाब्स होते हैं वे डिवीजनल लेउल पर झाफिसर्स की जो स्कीर्निंग कमेटी होती है, उसके द्वारा किया जाता है। कांस्टीटय भन में चीकर सेवभन के बारे में जो प्राविजन है उन पर काफी ग्रमल किया जाता है। लेकिन साथ ही साथ माइना-रिटीज के लोगों का स्याल रखा जाता है। इसका कोई परसंन्टेज तय नहीं किया गया है। यह इस बनियादी बात को ध्यान में रख कर किया जाता है कि माइनारिटीज को ज्यादा अकोकोडेट करना है ग्रौर इस पर श्रमल किया जाता है।

Conversion of Tuticorin-Madras M.G. Railway Line

*2. SHRI M. KADERSHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for the conversion of the metre gauge track from Tuticorin to Madras has been finalised;

(b) whether Government has received any representation from the

Madurai-Ramnad Chamber of Commerce in this regard; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) A survey for construction of a new line from Karur to Madurai *via* Dindi-gul and gauge conversion of the existing metre gauge line from Madurai to Tuticorin was carried out in 1967-68 but the project was found to be un-remunerative.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A re-appraisal of the scheme, taking into account the latest developments, has been ordered.

SHRI M. KADERSHAH: Sir, I would like to know from the honourable Minister why this is being delayed and whether any memorandum has been submitted by the Madurai-Ramnad Chamber of Commerce and, if so, what are the contents of that memorandum and whether the Government has examined this project in the light of the national economy as a whole and the State economy in particular.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, regarding the question of replying to the memorandum, I will repeat what I have said in my reply: 'Yes, Sir". I have already given that reply. We have received a memorandum from the Chamber of Commerce and are already taking action on that. I have already referred to it in my reply to the question.

As far a_s the delay is concerned, Sir, the procedure is that whenever a survey of a particular project is undertaken and if it is found that the survey is unremunerative, in that case, unless certain specific reasons arise, we do not have a reappraisal of the scheme. But, in this case when a number of delegations met us and convinced u_s that the reappraisal of the scheme is necessary in view of certain developments that are taking