

RAJYA SABHA

*Monday, the 14th May, Wi/the 24th
Vaisakha, 1895 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock MR.
CHAIRMAN in the Chair

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**REPRESENTATIONS FROM FEDERATION OF
RAILWAY OFFICERS' ASSOCIATIONS**

264. SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA :
SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI :
SHRI HIMMAT SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be
pleased to state :—

(a) whether Government have recently received

(b) if so, what are the details in this re-
gard and the action taken by Government to
meet the demands made therein?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation received from the
Federation of Railway Officers' Association
refers to the poor promotional prospects of
Railway Officers as compared with other
Class I Central Services. This representation
is under active consideration j of
Government.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA :
Sir, the Federation of Railway Officers'
Associations had urged the Railway Board
to review the question of cadres so] that
productivity and efficiency do not suffer. Its
proposal to upgrade some 1,500 posts on
the principle of promotion,

tThis question was actually asked on the
floor of th? House by Harsh D50 Malaviya.
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accepted by the Railway Board six years
ago, is yet to be implemented. And this
Federation has been making representation
to the Government since the last so many
years. I would like to know why it is that,
even though so many years have elapsed, it
has not yet received the attention of the
Government.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : Sir, I
quite agree that in order to maintain a good
standard in the Railway service, we have to
give promotion opportunities to the Railway
staff properly. This matter has been gone
into by the study team on Railways which
was appointed earlier. The Cadre Reviewing
Committee in the meeting which was held
recently on the 30th March, 1973, decided
to upgrade certain posts. Now, an exercise
is being done to identify posts in various
departments and services to be allotted to
the junior executive service. This is done
with a view to improving the condition of
the officers in the Railways.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA : Sir,
according to the proposal submitted by the
Officers' Federation, Class I officers would
reach the junior grade in 12 years, the
middle grade in 16 years and the senior grade
in 19 years. The total cost of re-structuring
the cadre comprising 8,000 officers was
estimated by the Federation at Rs. 83 lakhs,
which is hardly any thing compared to the
proposed grade revision of 80,000 running
staff which costs Rs. 15 crores. May I take it
that the hon. Minister will see to it that this
legitimate grievance of the officers will be
removed in view of the fact that the cost
involved is not so much, i.e. it is only Rs.
83 lakhs?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI :
I have already slated that the Cadre Review-
ing Committee has already taken a decision
and now it is only a question of identifying
the posts in the various departments in the
Railways itself. And that will be done very
soon.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : May I
know from the hon. Minister if it is a fact
that it is immediately necessary to have
decentralisation in the entire adminis-

Officers' Associations

t ration of the Railways ? I ask this question because the representation, as we understand, says that one Divisional Engineer is expected to supervise the work of 20,000 people. Is it possible for one single individual to have effective supervision over such a large number of employees ? What is the Government's attitude ? Is the Government taking steps towards decentralisation of this administration?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : Sir, the representation made by this Federation mainly refers to upgradation of certain posts. It does not refer at all to decentralisation or other matters, and this is not being considered by the Government at this stage.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : Sir, in the Railways there is very little scope for promotion for medical doctors. There are a large number of MOs as against the DMO and the CMO for each Railway. May I know whether the Government is going to consider sanctioning several posts of ADMOs in each Railway so that the MOs may have an opportunity of promotion?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : Sir, certain posts are being upgraded. The number has already been decided. The Medical Officers will get their due share, according to their proportion in the service, from this upgradation.

SHRI CD. PANDE : In view of the fact that there is a great deal of congestion of officers in the Railways, will the Government consider the question of shifting some of the officers to the public sector undertakings where there are so many vacancies for these posts? If a sizeable number of Railway officers are sent to these public sector units, then there will be more scope for the existing officers in the Railways for promotions, etc.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : That may not solve all the problems. As already stated, the Cader Review Committee

will also consider if there is any possibility of sending some of the officers to the public sector undertakings, if they desire to have these officers.

REORGANISATION OF C. W. & P. C.

265. SHRI KRISHAN KANT^f :

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR :
SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH : SHRI
BRAHMANANDA PANDA : SHRI
A. G. KULKARNI : DR. Z. A.
AHMAD :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Bhagwantam Committee for the reorganisation of the Central Water and Power Commission have been fully implemented ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION J AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) Annexure indicating the present position relating to the main recommendations cited by the Committee is enclosed. Some recommendations retain primarily to service conditions and career prospects of engineering officers such as upward revision of pay scales, introduction of time scales etc. Action on these recommendations were initiated sometime back. Since they involve issues of wider implications concerning personal matter and have financial implications, final decisions thereon will be taken in the light of decisions on the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission.

^fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishan Kant.