

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS/ रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Instructions were issued on 9-5-1969 by the Headquarters office of the Northern Railway indicating the type of record to be maintained for recovery of charges from the handling contractor, wherever leviable for the provision of crane. The Divisional office, Allahabad in turn conveyed these instructions to all concerned including Station Master, Mirzapur through a circular dated 31-5-69. This circular also carried an indication of the basis for levy of such charges.

Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Yes.]

INTRODUCTION OF EXPRESS TRAIN BETWEEN CALICUT AND COCHIN

1014. SHRI K CHANDRASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS/ रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री be pleased to state whether Government have under consideration any proposal to run an express train between Calicut and Cochin ; if so, from when will it be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS/ रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : A proposal for introduction of an express train between Calicut and Cochin, partly in replacement of existing passenger trains running on this route, is under detailed examination. No firm date for introduction of the service can be given at this stage.

NEW PROJECTS IN KERALA

1015. SHRI K CHANDRASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS/ रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री be pleased to state the details of the new projects that are proposed to be executed in Kerala during the current year.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS/ रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): During 1971-72, the work of doubling the line between

Kanjikode and Olavakkot (13.64 km.) is proposed to be taken up in Kerala.

CHIEF JUSTICE ON THE SERVICE CONDITIONS OF HIGH COURT JUDGES

570. SHRI KALYAN ROY:

SHRI N. K. KRISHNAN:

Will the MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE/ विधि और न्याय मंत्री be pleased to state:

whether Government's attention has been drawn to the speech made by Shri S. M. Sikri, Chief Justice of India, as reported in the 'Statesman', dated the 15th March, 1971 (Calcutta edition) regarding the need to improve the service conditions including the salary of High Court Judges; and

if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE/ विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI NITI RAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY): (a) Government have seen the Press Report referred to.

(b) Two specific proposals were considered by Government to improve the conditions of service of High Court and Supreme Court Judges, viz.,

(i) To raise the retirement age from 62 to 65 in the case of High Court Judges and consequently, from 65 to 68 years in the case of Supreme Court Judges ; and

(ii) To raise the salaries of Judges by Rs. 500 per month.

As the proposals involved constitutional amendments, the leaders of political parties in Parliament were consulted but the consensus of opinion was not in favour of raising the retirement age or the salaries of Judges. The proposals had, therefore, to be dropped. Government will, however, consider the whole question again at the appropriate time.

At present when a Judge of the High Court avails of leave on full allowances he can get full salary (equal to monthly rate of pay) for the first month of such leave. It has been decided to increase the limit for the drawal of full salary to 45 days as in the case of Judges of

[] English translation. ^Transferred from the 3rd June, 1971.

the Supreme Court and to extend to the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts the benefit of commuting leave on half allowances into leave on full allowances upto a period of three months during the entire service as Judge. Necessary legislation for the purpose will be introduced in Parliament shortly.

At present when a Judge of the High Court is appointed to the Supreme Court, he loses all the leave earned by him as a Judge of the High Court. It is proposed to provide for carry-forward of such leave upto a maximum of 4 months subject to certain conditions and the necessary legislation for the purpose is being undertaken.

A scheme of Family Pension and Death-cum-retirement Gratuity for Judges appointed from the Bar is also under consideration of the Government.

†SUGGESTION FOR AMENDING THE PEOPLES' REPRESENTATION ACT

573. SHRI SWAISINGH SISODIA:
SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN :

Will the MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE/ विधि और न्याय मंत्री be pleased to state :

whether the Chief Election Commissioner of India has recently urged the Central Government to introduce an early legislation for amending the Peoples' Representation Act with a view to ensuring a paid holiday on the poll day for all categories of employees throughout the country; and

if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE/ विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI NITI RAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is being examined.

‡ईंट के भट्टों द्वारा काम बन्द किया जाना

600. श्री सुरज प्रसाद : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) फरवरी, 1971 में कोयला खानों में हड़ताल हो जाने के फलस्वरूप कोयले की

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‡Transferred from the 4th June, 1971.

सप्लाई न होने के कारण विभिन्न राज्यों में चलाये जा रहे ईंट के भट्टों को कितने दिन तक काम बन्द करना पड़ा ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि सोनीपत के भट्टा मालिक एसोसिएशन द्वारा रेल मंत्रालय को इस विषय में शिकायतें भेजी गई हैं ; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

STOPPAGE OF WORK BY BRICK KILNS

600. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS/ रेल मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days for which the Brick Kilns in the various States stopped functioning due to lack of coal supply caused by the strike in the coal mines in February, 1971;

(b) whether it is a fact that Brick Kilns Owners' Association, Sonapat has made complaints to the Ministry of Railways in this regard; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) फरवरी, 1971 में कोयले के अभाव या कोयला खानों में हड़ताल के कारण किसी ईंट के भट्टे के बन्द हो जाने के सम्बन्ध में इस मंत्रालय को कोई जानकारी नहीं है ।

(ख) जी नहीं । इस प्रकार की कोई शिकायत इस मंत्रालय में प्राप्त हुई प्रतीत नहीं होती । लेकिन, ईंट पकाने वाले कोयले की कमी के बारे में हरियाणा सरकार और दूसरों से शिकायतें मिली हैं ।

(ग) पश्चिम बंगाल और बिहार से कोयले की समग्र लदान में कमी होने के कारण 1970-71 के दौरान समस्त ईंट उद्योग के लिए स्लैक कोयले के लदान में कमी हो गयी थी । इसका आंशिक कारण यह था कि अगस्त, 1970 तक मांगें कम रहीं और तत्पश्चात् पूर्वी क्षेत्रों में रेलों को गम्भीर कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ा जो उनके काबू से बाहर थीं । गाड़ियों के

†[] English translation.