

though by that time they had completed five year; of service in officers cadre;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that they had proceeded on leave before they could actually be reverted;

(c) whether it is also a fact that when they came from leave after fifteen days they were put to work as Assistant Engineers; and

(d) if so, the reasons for treating a break in their service as Assistant Engineers for the period they were on leave and the grounds for not giving them increment for that period?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA): (a) No. Six Assistant Engineers were reverted in 1961: due to the shrinkage in cadre as a result of completion of certain construction works. Only one of them had at the time of reversion put in nearly five years service in Class II.

(b) All of them proceeded on leave from the date of their reversion from Class II.

(c) Only one of them was promoted to class II after having remained on leave for 17 days. The rest remained on leave for periods nearly ranging from eight months to 15 months.

(d) They were promoted to Class II on occurrence of fresh vacancies. Since there were no vacancies in Class II, it could not be certified that they would have continued in Class II but for going on leave and as such the period of leave cannot be treated as continuous in Class II and also for the purpose of increment.

FRESH ELECTIONS IN WEST BENGAL

1553. SHRIINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether following the dissolution of the West Bengal Assembly,

Government have taken any decision for holding fresh elections in that State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI JAGANNATH RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIES IN STATES

1554. SHRIINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any scheme for giving financial assistance to industries in the States;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) the time by when the scheme will be ready and the nature of the industries that will come within the purview of this scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) On the basis of the recommendations made to the Committee of the National Development Council by the Pande and Wanchoo Working Groups, a decision had been taken that the Central Government may give an outright grant of subsidy amounting to one-tenth of the fixed capital investment of new units, whether in the small scale or other sector of industry, so long as the total fixed capital investment did not exceed Rs. 50 lakhs each. This grant would be available for new units to be set up in two selected districts in each of the 9 States identified by the Pande Working Group as industrially backward and one district each of the other States and Union territories.