

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON):** (a) to (c) No complaints have been received from any individual coalmines in the Asansol-Raniganj coal belt about inadequate supply of wagons to the collieries from June to October, 1969.

Three Associations had, however, represented for increase in overall wagons supplies in Bengal-Bihar fields as a whole and not to any specific coal mines or specific coal belt referred to in the Question. Such representations from the Associations are duly considered and also discussed with them in the periodical meetings.

Constant efforts are made to increase movement from the Bengal-Bihar fields. During the 7 months of 1969-70 ending October, 1969 overall loading per day from Bengal-Bihar fields was 6308 wagons against 5741 and 5686 respectively in the corresponding period of 1968-69 and 1967-68. Apart from Steel Plants not being able to take coal fully according to programme, loading could still have been more but for the less demand for Bengal area and by certain routes like *via* Garhara, *via* Agra East Bank, *via* Manduadih, and heavy detention to wagons in colliery sidings.

#### HIGHER START FOR STENOGRAPHERS IN THE RAILWAYS

**\*320. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether higher start of Rs. 150 in the scale of Rs. 130-300 was allowed to serving stenographers in Indian Railways with service ranging upto 4 years and basic pay being Rs. 130, Rs. 135, Rs. 140 and Rs. 145 and to the new entrants appointed on and from the 1st December, 1964 ;

(b) whether no benefit has been extended to stenographers on their having reached or crossed the basic pay of Rs. 150 by putting in 4 years to service in the scale of Rs. 130-300; and

(c) if so, the reasons for denying point to point fixation to serving stenographers on their having put in more than 4 years service and whether any steps are being taken to remove this discriminatory treatment meted out to one section of the same category?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There has been no revision of the scale and as such the question of refixation of pay of serving Stenographers does not arise.

#### MANUFACTURE OF SODIUM HYDRO-SULPHIDE

**\*321. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India have received any proposal from the State of Tamil Nadu for the manufacture of Sodium Hydrosulphide in Public Sector; and

(b) what action the Government of India have taken thereon ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) :** (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. An application dated the 24th September, 1969 for the manufacture of Sodium Hydrosulphide was received in this Ministry on the 9th October, 1969 and is under consideration along with other applications.

#### बरोनी तथा कटिहार के बीच बड़ी लाइन का बिछाया जाना

**\*322. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में बरोनी से कटिहार तक प्रस्तावित बड़ी लाइन के बिछाने का कार्य कब तक शुरू किया जाएगा ; और

(ख) पूर्वोत्तर सीमा रेलवे के कटिहार स्थित प्रभागीय मुख्यालय के पूर्णरूप से कार्य शुरू करने हेतु स्थायी व्यवस्था कब तक किये जाने की संभावना है ?

#### †[LAYING OF BROAD GAUGE LINE BETWEEN BARAUNI AND KATIHAR]

**\*322. SHRI J. P. YADAV :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by when the proposed laying of a broad gauge line from Barauni to Katihar on the North-Eastern Railway will be undertaken; and

†[ ] English translation.