

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday the 23rd November, 1967/ the
2nd Agrahayana 1889 (Saka)

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

RAILWAY OFFICERS SENT TO U.S.A. FOR TRAINING

*91. SHRI A. C. GILBERT : Will the
Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present rules for selection of
Railway Officers for training in the
United States of America under the
U.S. Aid Programme ;

(b) whether qualifications, seniority
experience and Character Roils are
taken into consideration while selecting
Officers for such training ;

(c) whether the officers selected are
required to give an undertaking that their
families would not either accompany or
follow them to the United States of America
and if so, whether this is strictly followed in
practice ;

(d) whether the rules in this regard were
different prior to 1967 ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons
for the changes made in 1967?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
PARIMAL GHOSH) : (a) and (b) Officers for
training in U.S.A. are selected, taking into
account qualifications, seniority, experience,
record of service, etc.

(c) In cases where the period of training
abroad is less than 12 months, O-ficETS are
required to give an undertaking that their
families will not accompany or follow them.
In the pnst, this condition has, however, been
relaxed in special cases on medical grounds.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

SHRT A. C. GILBERT : May I know Sir,
whether it is a fact that a Class I

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officer who was finally selected to go to the
U.S.A. in 1967 for higher' studies under the
USAID programme was replaced by an
unselected officer ? If so, who did it and what
are the reasons for doing it ? Also, may I
know whether the Government has received
any complaint from the USAID authorities
regarding violation of the rules and
regulations of the training programmes and, if
so, whether it is a fact that due to some
pressure, the officer concerned has been
shielded ?

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : Sir, no such
case has been reported to the Railway Board
in this connection. If any specific thing is
being referred to, the hon. Member may
kindly mention it so that we may look into the
matter.

SHRI A. C. GILBERT : Sir, there are very
clear rules that officers who are involved in
vigilance cases ave not considered for going
abroad and also for promotions. May I know,
Sir, whether it is a fact that an officer who
was sent in the place of an actually selected
man, was involved in a vigilance case and, if
so, the reasons for sending him ?

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : Sir, we were
not aware of any vigilance case regarding any
officer who has been sent abroad for this
training. In any case vigilance clearance is not
taken before officers are sent abroad for
training. But if the hon. Member will give me
some indication about the matter, the matter
will definitely be looked into.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Sir, I am surprised at
the answer given by the Minister because the
Ministry must have in its possession the
names of those officers who were involved in
vigilance investigations. I would like the
Railway Ministry to tell us categorically that
no such report was received from the
Vigilance Department by the Railway Board.

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : Sir, so far as
the officers who have been sent abroad for
training are concerned, no such report from
the Vigilance Department was received.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : May I know, Sir, from the hon. Railway Minister whether enough care is taken to see that only such officers are sent abroad for training whose services could be utilised on their return and not such officers who are on the verge of superannuation and on whose return, it is found that all their training has gone waste because their services cannot be utilised ?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : They will be available to the private sector.

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : Sir, briefly speaking, these officers are sent for training purely on managerial technique and management technique. They are not sent for any specific specialised training. And when these officers come back after taking this training in management technique, efforts are always made to post them in such a way that their training could be utilised in the best possible manner.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : May I know how many officers have been sent by our Railways to the United States for training and what their average age is?

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : Sir, I can give you the number of officers sent for training, year by year.

Year	No. of Officers
1962	3
1963	3
1964	4
1965	15
1966	22

So far as the ages of the officers are concerned, I don't have any specific information with me now.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Will he find out and place the information on the Table of the House ?

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : Yes, I will find out and place it on the Table.

DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TAL-WAR : May I know how many years of

useful service the officers who are sent abroad for training would be able to put in in the Department after their return from abroad ? Has any consideration been given to this aspect of the matter ?

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : It all depends on the age of the officer who is sent abroad. After he has come back, his services will be utilised for the number of years of service that is left.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

COMMISSION TO ENQUIRE INTO ALLEGED MALPRACTICES OF BIRLA INDUSTRIES

*2 SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
SHRI P. K. KUMARAN : SHRI M. M. DHARIA :
DR. (MRS.) MAGALADEVI TAL-WAR :

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 324 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th August, 1967 and state :

(a) whether any decision has since been taken for appointing a Commission of Inquiry to look into the charges of corruption and malpractices levelled against Birla Group of Industries ; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for non-appointment of the commission of Inquiry so far ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) and (b) Government have actively proceeded with the investigations into the various allegations against the Birla Group of Companies which was the subject of discussion in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th August, 1967. The investigations cover a wide field and some of the detailed replies have been received only very recently.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. P. Bhargava.