

Bank so that such cases may be reduced.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : यह जो आपने डिपॉजिट के बारे में बताया कि जो लेने वाला है वह अपने नाम पर डिपॉजिट कराये, यह योजना कब से लागू हुई है और इसके पहले जो डिपॉजिट्स हुये वे किस के नाम पर थे, उन अकाउंट्स का ट्रान्सफर करने का कोई इन्तजाम किया है क्या और अगर नहीं किया है तो उन अकाउंट्स पर जो ब्याज आता है, वह ब्याज किस के पास जाता है ?

SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY: Sir, in May 1965 this change in respect of bank guarantee was introduced. Also the customers can book their orders only in the area in which they reside. These are the two conditions placed in May 1965. As far as the second question is concerned, a separate question may be put—whether these bank deposits were transferred or not.

श्री शुक्देव प्रसाद : श्रीमन्, जैसा कि छोटी कारों के बारे में सदन में बहुत बार प्रश्न उठा, तो क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानने की कोशिश करूँ कि छोटी कारों या सस्ती कारों की तरह से ही सस्ते किस्म के ट्रैक्टर बनाने की कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ?

SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY: The Government are also exploring various possibilities of producing cheap and good tractors also for the agriculturists.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall stop here. Next question.

*95. [Postponed to the 10th August, 1967.]

RETRENCHMENT OF STAFF AND ABOLITION OF POSTS

*96. **SHRI A. D. MANI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of fall in revenue, economy measures are being taken by way of retrenchment of staff and abolition of posts in the Railways; and

(b) if so; the number of posts at the officers' level on the Indian Railways which are going to be abolished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH): (a) and (b) A review has been undertaken of the strength of officers and staff in various offices of Railways to explore the possibility of any reduction in the strength of those departments or offices, in view of the great need for economy. This review is still in progress.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask whether a review has been made on the multiplication of staff on account of the creation of new zones particularly the zone at Hyderabad?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: The South Central Railway Zone was constituted very recently and it is just coming to regular form. So it is too early for me to say what is the position there but I must say that the very fact of having created a new zone does in itself imply that there would be certain additional top executives posts so far as that new zone is concerned. As far as that particular zone is concerned, detailed review has not been undertaken because it is just recently formed.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Is there any cell functioning in the Zonal Administration to find out at what level retrenchment can be effected without creating much discontent?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: There is no specific cell as such but the General Managers are constantly reviewing the position through their Chief Personnel Officer and as such it is a regular exercise by the top Management of each Railway.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know from the Minister whether it is a fact that five posts of Joint Directors in the Railway Board were surrendered under economy measures but at the same time five posts of Marketing Officers were created in the five zones with a Rs. 200 rise in salaries? Is this an economy measure? May I know whether these are facts?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: The review itself implies that wherever we have excess posts which are not actually needed for the day-to-day administration, such posts should be surrendered and economy effected. Where the workload demands, new posts will have to be created as well. This arises out of the fact that we wanted to make some vigorous and active salesmanship to canvass business and for that purpose special posts have been earmarked in some Railways to canvass business so far as goods traffic is concerned and this is a special thing which was emphasised during the Budget debate and we have taken action accordingly.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: What business these Marketing Officers appointed by the Railways are to canvass? Are they to go to the people and persuade them to travel more?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: It is in respect of goods traffic. They meet the representatives and associations of industries and commerce. They discuss with them and try to find out their difficulties and evolve some solution for transporting goods to the advantage of the industry and commerce in general.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : रिट्रैक्टमेंट आफ स्टाफ के अतिरिक्त एकानामी लाने का और भी कोई पोजिटिव स्टेप रेलवेज में उठाया गया है या यही एक रास्ता चुना गया है ?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: There are other aspects also to the question like exploring possibilities of effecting economy on fuel consumption, material consumption, holding of inventories, etc. There are various

things and all these are also being considered smultanously.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: This is rather an important question because there is a news item in the *Indian Express* which gives the heading: 'Railway Officials protest against new Order'. Whether it is false or genuine, is not known. I would like to know from the Minister whether two posts of Assistant Mechanical Engineers have been created at New Delhi station alone when normally for a whole Railway Division there are only 3 Assistant Mechanical Engineers?

May I also know whether one post of Assistant Director, Ticket Checking, in the Railway Board has been created where a known favourite of the Railway Board has been accommodated?

Has a special lavatory at a cost of Rs. 700 been constructed near the office of the Chairman of the Railway Board when all the Chairmen of the Railway Board who have functioned in the Rail Bhavan earlier never needed it?

Is it a fact that the present Chairman of the Railway Board has been travelling by air, excepting for the first time last time when he travelled by rail, when all the previous Railway Board Chairmen had gone mostly by train and only three or four times by air?

Are these economy measures or is this economy measure a farce and is only to create terror in the officials?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are combining three questions in one to say that you put only one question.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: I followed the advice given by Mr. Chordia . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am giving a warning to the House, if I may say so, that if you go on like this, I will only put 10 questions on the order paper. I am only giving an opportunity to rectify this mistake; otherwise, next week I shall begin to ask only 10 questions to be put so that you can

have a number of questions by each one as he likes.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: I cannot accept the implied insinuations contained in the question of my hon. friend that favourites have been selected to be given promotion in new posts. This is not a fact. A few additional posts have been created where workload demanded. For example, certain Divisions are very heavy Divisions and with the frequency of train services and increase in the workload, additional posts have been created. I think my hon. friend is referring to such cases and if he has any specific points, I will certainly discuss with him if these matters are brought to my notice.

INDIAN STUDY TEAMS TO WEST ASIA

*97. SHRI D. THENGARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three Sales-cum-Study Teams will shortly visit West Asian countries to explore markets for Indian products; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the composition of the study teams?

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

(b) The first team which left India on the 21st July, 1967, for U.A.R., Sudan and Syria is composed of 3 businessmen, one representative of the State Trading Corporation of India and one representative of the Directorate General of Technical Development.

The second team will visit Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait. The third team is likely to visit Persian Gulf area e.g., Bahrain, Muscat and Oman, Qatar and Trucial Oman, Duhai and Abu Dabi. The composition of these teams is under consideration.

SHRI D. THENGARI: Has the team visiting the West Asian countries been asked to examine the effect of deval-

uation on our trade in the West Asian countries?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: Yes.

SHRI D. THENGARI: Is there any complaint about the quality of our products supplied or about lack of uniformity of our products? Has the Government received any such complaint and, if so, have any measures been taken to remove these complaints?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: We have not received any complaints about the quality of our goods but the matter is under constant review and as and when complaints are received, the Government would look into them.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Who are the three businessmen who have been included in the trade team to the U.A.R? What are the qualifications for which they were included and whether they have any trade with the U.A.R?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: They have been recommended by the respective Trade Promotion Councils.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Who are they?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: I will give the names. One is Shri B. Nehru of Tata Engineering and Locomotive Co. He is representing trucks, buses and spares and automobile auxiliaries. The second is Shri P. R. Kolthe of Escorts Limited. They are dealing in hospital equipment like X-Ray equipment and other allied hospital accessories. Then there is Dr. A. Podval. I think the name by itself reveals the qualification. He is from Messrs. Biological Evans, Private Ltd. Bombay. They are dealing in pharmaceuticals and drugs. Then there is one representative of the S.T.C. and one from the D.G.T.D.

The second team consists of Shri Fakhruddin Ebrahim Patanwala, representing soaps, cosmetics and toile-