

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER (ELECTRICAL) IN RAILWAY BOARD AND CREATION OF POSTS OF CHIEF ENGINEER (ELECTRICAL) IN ZONAL RAILWAYS

473. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken for appointment of a Member (Electrical) in the Railway Board in view of growing electrification in the Railways;

(b) the names of the Zonal Railways which have already appointed Chief Engineer (Electrical); and

(c) whether other Zonal Railways are also considering creation of the posts of Chief Engineer (Electrical)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) and (c) Chief Electrical Engineers are functioning on all the 8 Zonal Railways.

THROUGH TRAIN FROM DELHI TO NANGAL

474. SHRI ABDUL GHANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 286 in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th August, 1965 and state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that a large number of passengers including tourists for Nangal are put to great inconvenience in absence of a through train from Delhi to Nangal;

(b) whether the Northern Railway has received any representation recently from the residents of Nangal for running a through train from Delhi to Nangal; and

(c) if so, the action taken on the representation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) to (c) Two through service coaches namely

one composite I & II and one third class, running between Delhi and Nangal Dam have been found, by and large, to be adequate for the requirements of through passengers travelling between these points. The quantum of through traffic moving at present between these points is not such as to justify running of a full train between Delhi and Nangal Dam as urged in the representation received in this regard. Besides non-availability of requisite line capacity on Delhi-Ambala section and of terminal facilities at Delhi/New Delhi preclude introduction of such a service.

TAKING OVER OF MILL BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

475. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have written to Government of India to take over the New Pratap Mill, Dhulia for running it;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in the matter; and

(c) reasons for which mill was closed by the present owners ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI M. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) to (c) M/s. New Pratap Spinning Weaving and Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Dhulia, could not raise the necessary loan for running the mill from their Bankers; and closed down on 13-1-1966 for an indefinite period. The Government of Maharashtra suggested the appointment of an Investigation Committee under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, to look into the affairs of the mill. Accordingly, an Investigation Committee was appointed on the 24th February, 1966. The report of the Committee is awaited.

SHORTAGE OF NON-FERROUS METALS IN ORISSA

476. SHRI S SUPAKAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of non-ferrous metals like brass and bell metal in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government of India to supply sufficient quantity of such metals to Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) and (b) No allocation in respect of brass and bell metal is made to the States. Allocation of virgin non-ferrous metals involved in brass and bell metal viz. copper, zinc lead and tin are allotted to the States for meeting the requirements of small scale units, by the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries. There is a general shortage of these imported non-ferrous metals, due to the present difficult foreign exchange position, and this shortage is common to Orissa as well as other States.

RETRENCHMENT IN D. B. K. RAILWAY

477. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers retrenched from the D.B.K. Railway during 1965;

(b) the number of these retrenched workers who had completed 240 days of service and become eligible for retrenchment compensation;

(c) whether any of the retrenched workers has since been considered for absorption in permanent vacancies on the Railways; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) 67 Class III staff and 17 casual labourers.

(b) 21 Class III staff and 11 casual labourers.

(c) No.

(d) They have not yet been selected for regular posts.

REFIXION OF PAY OF ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS

478. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Assistant Station Masters who were holding substantive posts of Commercial Clerks on 1st April, 1956, in Guntakal division on Southern Railway have been granted appropriate increments to protect their pay;

(b) if not, how many are still left without refixation of pay;

(c) whether similar refixation has been done on other zonal Railways; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

RESTRICTIONS ON STAFF COUNCILS

479. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that orders have been issued by the Railway Board recently restricting the meetings of Staff Councils to one in six months;

(b) whether the number of problems that a member can raise has also been restricted to two at a meeting; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for these restrictions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) and (b) No such instructions have been issued by the Railway Board.

(c) Does not arise.