

RAILWAY MINISTER'S WELFARE AND RELIEF FUND

*98. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money in the Railway Minister's Welfare and Relief Fund at present;

(b) the amount collected during the year 1963-64; and

(c) the amount disbursed out of the Fund during the year 1963-64?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Rs. 4,54,376.63 as on 31st August 1964.

(b) Rs. 1,61,979.26.

(c) Rs 59,123.22.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, the number of persons who sought help and who were given help, and the highest amount an individual was paid and the lowest amount given to an individual?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Three hundred and eighteen persons have so far been given aid under this Fund. The highest is a lump sum of Rs. 25,000; it was given for collective relief of the flood-stricken railway employees. The lowest is about Rs. 100.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, if it is not a fact that high-paid officials have taken more advantage of this Fund, and if it is not also a fact that one D.M.O. of the Northern Railway was given Rs. 8000 for the treatment of his son two years back?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: That is correct Sir, but such things will not happen in future.

श्री महाबीर प्रसाद भार्गव : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतायेंगे कि इस फंड का प्रबन्ध

कौन करता है और वितरण किस प्रकार किया जाता है ?

श्री राम सुभग सिंह : इस कोष की व्यवस्था के लिये एक व्यवस्था समिति है जिसके मेम्बर ये हैं :

पहले हैं एडीशनल मेम्बर स्टाफ एज एक्स ग्राफिशियो चेयरमैन, डाइरेक्टर, फाइनेंस, डाइरेक्टर, एस्ट्रब्लिशमेंट और सेक्रेटरी रेलवे बोर्ड, एक्स ग्राफिशियो मेम्बर्स, ज्वान्ट सेक्रेटरी फाइनेंस, एक्स ग्राफिशियो ट्रेजरर और डिप्टी डाइरेक्टर, एस्ट्रब्लिशमेंट, एज एक्स ग्राफिशियो सेक्रेटरी ।

SHRI G. M. MIR: I would like to know from where this amount is collected.

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: The Fund is built up from voluntary contributions made by railwaymen and the proceeds from charity shows arranged by the various railways.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: The hon. Minister was pleased to reply that it so happened sometimes—this is what he said if I understood him correctly. And may I know Sir, what steps Government is going to take to stop this evil?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Actually this is a thing of the past and I can tell you, Sir, that we shall examine such things in future, and nothing will be allowed to happen like that.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I know, Sir, what are the criteria on which the Minister decides whether a particular case deserves relief from the Railway Minister's Relief Fund or not, and whether all applications are considered without exception?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Actually this Fund was created in April 1961 for providing relief to railwaymen and their families in distress, particularly in cases where no relief

could be sanctioned under the normal rules, and whenever we receive any petition from any zonal railway regarding such matter it is scrutinised by this management committee and they give the amount the case deserves.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: The hon. Minister had just said that there was an advisory committee for the disbursements from this Fund. May I know, Sir, why a representative of the low-paid railway employees is not taken on this advisory committee?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Actually, this management committee consists of persons who are in the Administration and so there is no question of taking any low-paid employee or other employee, because it is directly administered under the auspices of the Railway Ministry, that is, from here, and only administrative people are there.

कपड़े के मूल्यों पर नियंत्रण

*६६. { श्री गिरिराज किशोर कपूर† :
श्री ए० बी० वाजपेयी :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार कपड़े के मूल्यों पर कानूनी नियंत्रण लागू करने का विचार रखती है ;

(ख) सूती वस्त्र सलाहकार बोर्ड ने अपनी हाल की बैठक में सरकार को क्या सुझाव दिये थे ; और

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर 'हाँ' हो, तो क्या सरकार हर प्रकार के कपड़ों के मूल्य नियत करने का विचार रखती है ?

‡[CONTROL ON CLOTH PRICES

*99. { SHRI G. K. KAPOOR:†
SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impose statutory control on prices of cloth;

(b) the suggestions made to Government by the Cotton Textile Consultative Board in its recent meeting; and

(c) if reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to fix the prices of all varieties of cloth?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Government have been having under consideration the question of controlling cotton textiles prices. The Cotton Textiles Consultative Board has suggested that, in the present context, the scheme of Voluntary Price Control should be replaced as soon as possible by imposition of statutory controls over the production and prices of popular varieties of cloth produced by composite mills to the extent of about 40% of the total deliveries for civil consumption (i.e. excluding deliveries for export and defence) made by the mills in 1963, so that a reasonable proportion of cloth requirements of common use may become available at controlled prices.

A decision in the matter is likely to be taken by the Government at an early date. All preliminary preparations are almost completed.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri G. K. Kapoor.

‡[] English translation.