

overcrowding on certain trains on the Ahmedabad-Mehsana and connected sections.

(b) With effect from 1st April 1964, two pairs of new trains—one pair between Ahmedabad and Kalol and the other between Ahmedabad and Sabarmati—have been introduced. Arrangements are also being made to augment the loads of 20 trains—16 on the M. G. and 4 on the B. G.—at an early date.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Does the hon. Deputy Minister consider these trains are sufficient to completely relieve the over-crowding there? Or will the overcrowding continue in spite of these additions?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: It would ease to a great extent.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: May I know whether the Railway Ministry is convinced that having the De Luxe train from Ahmedabad to Delhi will remove this overcrowding?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Not for the present.

ORDER REGARDING ABSORPTION OF CASUAL LABOUR ON RAILWAYS

*185. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an order or a direction from his Ministry to the General Managers of different Railways to put all casual labour, if they are retained for more than six months, into the category of temporary, employees; and

(b) if so, when the order or the direction was issued?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Casual labour refers to labour whose employment is seasonal, intermittent, sporadic or extends over short periods.

The labour who can be treated as temporary on completion of 6 months' service are those falling under the following categories:—

- (1) Such of those persons who are retained for more than six months (except those employed on projects) and who continue to do the same work for which they were engaged or other work of the same type, for more than six months without a break, are treated as temporary after the expiry of the six months of continuous employment.
- (2) Persons employed as seasonal labour can be treated as temporary if such labour is shifted from one work to another of the same type, and the total continuous period of such work at any one time is more than six months' duration.

The labour who cannot be treated as temporary are as follows:—

- (i) Staff paid from contingencies for periods of less than six months continuously;
- (ii) Labour employed on Projects irrespective of duration;
- (iii) Seasonal labour who are sanctioned for specific works of less than six months duration.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: From the Statement it appears there are directives to the General Managers of the Railways to consider employees working for more than six months as temporary. But may I know from the hon. Minister whether there are some cases which have come to their notice from Kharagpur where particular employees were discharged on a particular day and they got reappointment letters on the same day?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: I could not follow the latter part of the question, Sir.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: I asked whether this fact has come to the notice of the hon. Minister that in Kharagpur some employees were discharged and reappointed the same day, letters of reappointment were issued to them the same day.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: The instructions given to the General Managers are like this with regard to casual labour. Casual labour should not be deliberately discharged with a view to causing an artificial break in their service and thus prevent their attaining temporary status. That is the specific instruction and if complaints are brought to our notice, we shall look into them.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: May I know if an appeal has been made to the President of India and letters have been forwarded to the Ministry for their information?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: If there are certain specific genuine complaints, they may be forwarded to us.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is it a fact that this casual labour is not given passes for their journey to the place of work, or the other amenities that are available to permanent employees?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Sir, casual labour generally is local labour. People round about the place where there is work going on, they are recruited. They are not transferable.

As for passes and P.T.O. casual labour people are not entitled to passes or Privilege Ticket Orders. But passes are admissible to casual labour on recruitment and discharge in cases where such labour are not available at the site of the work and have to be recruited from places far away from the site of the work in the interest of the Administration. These are the only circumstances in which they are entitled.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: With regard to the casual labour in Kharagpur, may I ask whether the Government have received any representation, memorandum or document from the Railwaymen's Union concerned?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: So far, I am not aware of it. If it is brought to our notice, we shall look into it.

SHRI D. THENGARI: Is it not a fact that casual labour is taken from some works to some other work of the same type within six months so that they may not become temporary?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: I have already said that there is a specific directive that there should not be an artificial break.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I know whether it has become a practice that sanctioning of special works which are to be continued in sequence is deliberately delayed so that an artificial break is caused in the service of the casual labour? That is what happens in practice in spite of the instructions sent out.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: In spite of the directions if there are mistakes like that, it may be brought to our notice.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: May I know from the hon. Minister whether the gangmen employed by the Permanent Way Inspectors of various Railways are treated as temporary employees or are they employed on daily wages?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: The gangmen are permanent but there may be casual labour employed to

assist him. Unless he completes six months' continuous service he cannot be put on the temporary cadre.

INCENTIVES TO FARMERS

*186. **SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government, in consultation with the Planning Commission, have formulated any scheme to give incentives to farmers; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and how and when it will be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes.

(b) The incentives which are commonly being given to the agriculturists all over the country to induce them to increase production take the form of Governmental assistance and award of prizes. Assistance is given to the cultivators by the Central and State Governments in the form of subsidies and loans, short, medium and long-term, under the various agricultural production schemes included in the Third Five Year Plan.

Prizes are awarded under the scheme of 'Crop Competitions' and 'Community Awards', which are already in force. Under the former, individual cultivators participate in crop competitions at the village, block, district, state and All-India levels and try to raise the yield per acre by adoption of improved farming practices. Prizes in cash or in kind are awarded to the first two or three winners at each level of competition. Besides, certificates of merit are also awarded to the prize winners. The first prize winner in respect of each

crop at the all India level is awarded a certificate of 'Krishi Pandit.'

The Community Awards, as distinguished from Crop Competitions, are linked with increases in production over larger areas. Each State and District where the total production of foodgrains exceeds by 15 per cent or more, the average out-term of the corresponding preceding three years qualify for a Community Award, the value of the State level award being Rs. 75,000/- and that of the District level award being Rs. 15,000/-. In addition, the State achieving the highest percentage increase in production is awarded a 'Rashtra Kalash' (Silver Trophy) and, similarly, the highest producing district in each State gets a 'Rajya Kalash'. A separate award called the 'Rashtrapati Kalash' has also been instituted in the case of Union Territories from 1960-61. The Award money earned by States/Districts is utilised for the benefit of cultivators.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: From the statement it appears that assistance is given to the cultivators by the Central and State Governments in the form of subsidies and loans, short, medium and long-term, under the various agricultural production schemes included in the Third Five Year Plan. May I know from the hon. Minister what has been the amount of assistance and loans granted and has any survey been made as to what have been the benefits derived out of this assistance given to them?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: The total value of the awards granted by the Centre to State Governments under the scheme for award of community prizes, is over Rs. 65 lakhs for 1958-59 to 1960-61. So far we have made no assessment though of course we know roughly the effect that has been created by the utilisation of these sums.