

and claims are invariably filed where there is a claim.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You will remember, Sir, that the Minister said in this House the other day that the safety of our Railways was as good as in the United Kingdom, if not better. May I know, in order to have a comparative study how many people had been killed as a result of railway accidents in England during the current year since he gave comparisons?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Yes, Sir. We have all the figures, and if the hon. Member would like to know the whole thing, I can tell him after the Question Hour.

**ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING DIVISION FOR
ORISSA P. & T. CIRCLE**

*393. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: "Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to sanction one additional Engineering Division and three additional Sub-divisions to the Orissa Post and Telegraph Circle is under Government's consideration; and

(b) if so, when the proposal is likely to be given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. P. SUBBARAYAN): (a) Yes. A proposal has been received from the Director, Posts and Telegraphs, Orissa.

(b) The question of re-organisation of telecommunications in this area is under examination. A decision is likely to be taken shortly.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Did the Deputy Director-General in his official observations also recommend the formation of such Sub-divisions and Divisions?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: It relates to more than one State. Therefore, the D.G., P. & T. is actively considering what could be done.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: After his tour of Orissa, did he recommend the formation of a Sub-division or Division?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: Yes, Sir, that was done. But it is under consideration, as I have said.

**SANCTION OF SELECTION GRADE STENO-
GRAPHERS TO DIRECTORS OF POSTS AND
TELEGRAPHS**

*394. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to sanction selection grade stenographers to the Directors of Posts and Telegraphs and officers of equivalent rank is under the consideration of Government since about a year; and

(b) if so, when is the proposal likely to materialise?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. P. SUBBARAYAN): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: In view of the fact that the Pay Commission in paragraphs 40 and 41 of its report has said that a higher grade, that is, Rs. 210-Rs. 425 should be given to those officers of the subordinate service . . .

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: It has been examined by the Ministry of Finance.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: This is in connection with stenographers. The higher grade that is, Rs. 210 to Rs. 425, should be given to those officers of the subordinate service whose duties and responsibilities are broadly comparable to those given to the Deputy

Secretaries to the Government. The duties and responsibilities should not be the main criterion . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: This is "what the Pay Commission has recommended.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The matter is under the examination of the Finance Ministry.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: He said that there was no proposal for sanction.

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: The Pay Commission have not specifically recommended that the stenographers attached to the Directors, P. & T. should be in the scale of Rs. 210/425 but since they have observed that the stenographers attached to the officers whose duties and responsibilities are comparable to those of the Deputy Secretaries of the Government should be in the scale of Rs. 210/425, the D. G., P. & T., has taken up the proposal that the pay of the stenographers attached to the Directors, P. & T., whose duties and responsibilities are comparable to those of a Deputy Secretary of Government of India, should be in the scale of Rs. 210/425 as against Rs. 130/300, the present scale. The proposal is being examined by the Ministry of Finance. No final decision has so far been taken in the matter, but from the trend of discussions in the Ministry of Finance, no really favourable decision is expected.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINE AND WIRE IN ORISSA

*395. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: "Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of telegraph and telephone line and wire which are within the boundaries of the State of

<672 RS—2.

Orissa but are being controlled by the Andhra Pradesh and Bihar Circles; and

(b) the steps taken to transfer them to the Orissa Post and Telegraph Circle?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. P. SUBBARAYAN) : (a) Andhra Circle 599 equivalent Line Mileage. Bihar Circle 1266 equivalent Line Mileage.

(b) The question of reorganisation of telecommunication assets in Orissa State, based on efficient maintenance and pattern of traffic is under examination.

***370. The questioner (Dr. Z. A. Ahmad) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2366 infra.]**

STOPPING OF TRAINS AT SAHIBABAD STATION

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

(a) whether it is a fact that some students stepped trains at Sahibabad Station on the 28th November, 1961;

(b) if so, what were the reasons for this incident;

(c) for how long the trains were detained; and

(d) whether police were called in that connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Late start of 1 GND Down Ghaziabad-New Delhi Shuttle by 10 minutes ex. Ghaziabad on account of train engine being detained at the Loco exit for passage, and detention of the train at Sahibabad due to the failure of the train engine.

fTransferred from the 13th December, 1961.