

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

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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.

(c) Twelve trains were detained, detention varying from 45 minutes to 5 hours and 55 minutes.

(d) The Civil Authorities of Ghazia-bad and Meerut were informed about the situation at Sahibabad. At about 13-30 the District Magistrate, Meerut accompanied by the District Superintendent of Police and a posse of U. P. Police and U. P. Armed Constabulary arrived at the spot.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know if it is a fact that the students have a long standing grievance against the trains running late between Ghaziabad and Delhi?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: It is not long standing one. As a matter of fact, the trains were running to time almost in September, October and in the early part of November. But later on, due to shortage of coal that being due to the Puja holidays and due to the bad quality of coal, there was trouble with the engines, and only for sixteen days there was some delay in the running of trains.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know what was the assurance which was given to these students by the District Magistrate when they stopped trains one after another?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Earlier, even the railway officials themselves had said that they would try and do their utmost to run the trains to time. The difficulty was due to the bad quality of the coal.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: I wanted to know what assurance was given by the District Magistrate when he came and asked the students to remove themselves from the platform?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: They were told that every effort would be made to run the trains on time.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: As the hon. Minister must be aware, it is not the first time that such an ille-

gal thing has happened. May I know what action the civil and railway authorities took against the people who indulged in these illegal actions?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: It is a difficult question and a bigger problem— the conduct of the student community in certain sections of the railways. When a large number of students are involved, it becomes very difficult to take legal action and deal with the offenders by taking legal action against them.

-SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know how many students go from Delhi to Ghaziabad and from Ghaziabad to Delhi back, and how many of them are ticketless?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: It is very difficult to say how many students go every day from Delhi to Ghaziabad or *vice versa*.

SHRI B. P. BASAPPA SHETTY: May I know whether the students are not issued season tickets, and it is not the duty of the railway authorities to see that some alternative arrangements are made to enable the students to reach their places in time?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: For those who want to purchase season tickets, season tickets are sold to them. But in the very nature of things as explained by the Deputy Minister, when there was some shortage of coal in the Ghaziabad loco-shed and the quality of the coal was not according to the specification for consumption by the locomotives, their speed was affected. And action has been taken since then, and I have not heard of any complaint till now. I have been personally watching it.

RAILWAY LINE BETWEEN INDIA AND EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

•397. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to.