

coal, for the export of iron ore and other things and these things take precedence over other claims.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: May I know, Sir, if it is not considered necessary that an important project like the Nagarjunasagar be linked by a railway line between Ongole and Hyderabad connecting Nagarjunasagar?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: The hon. Member is aware and the House is aware that these things are considered at the highest level. The Planning Commission goes through it. They could not fit it within the limits of finance and so they could not include it in the Third Plan.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Visakhapatnam is the main port of Andhra Pradesh. May I know, Sir, if linking it with Hyderabad, the capital of Andhra Pradesh via Kothagudam, is not in the interests of Andhra Pradesh or the country as a whole?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Many things are in the interests of the country and are also important. This line is 256 miles and it crosses the Eastern Ghats at several places and is a most expensive line and not within the financial resources of the Third Five Year Plan.

SCALES OF PAY AND DUTIES OF YARD PORTERS 'B' IN RAILWAYS

*212. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the duties of Yard Porter 'B' on the Southern Railway;

(b) the duties of Cabinmen on the Central and the South Eastern Railways;

(c) the scales of pay of Yard Porters 'B' on the Southern Railway and Cabinmen of the Central and the South Eastern Railways; and

(d) if there is any disparity between the two grades of employees on these Railways; what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Scales of pay and duties of Yard Porters 'B'

Part (a). Duties of Yard Porter 'B' on the Southern Railway.—Setting and locking of points, operation of fixed signals, piloting trains, coupling and uncoupling of vehicles and conducting of shunting operations under the instructions of Guard or Assistant Station Master.

Part (b). Duties of Cabinmen on the Central and the South Eastern Railways.—Setting of points and lowering of signals from a cabin, for reception and departure of trains and for shunting movements in the yard. Exchanging private numbers with the Station Master or adjacent cabin and maintaining cabin registers, cabin diary, etc.

Part (c). Scales of pay of Yard Porters 'B' on the Southern Railway and Cabinmen on the Central and the South Eastern Railways.

Southern Railway.—Rs. 75-95 (A.S.).

Central & South Eastern Railways.—Grade I: Rs. 105-135 (A.S.), Grade II: Rs. 80-110 (A.S.).

Part (d). Reasons for disparity, if any, between the two grades of employees on these Railways.—There can be no comparison of the scales of pay of the employees in question as the scales allotted are in accordance with the workload and nature of responsibility shouldered by each category.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: From the statement I find that parts (a) and (b) provide incomplete information. May I inform the Government that the duties defined in part (b) are also covered by Yard Porter 'B' on the Southern Railway? In view of the uniformity of duties performed, will the Government consider the question of giving equal scales of pay as also having uniform designations throughout the country for similar categories of workers?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The Government has no such intention. In fact, the designation of Yard Porter 'B' has been already changed to Pointsman 'B'.

RECOMMENDATION OF SACHDEV COMMITTEE TO OVERCOME POWER SHORTAGE IN W. BENGAL

*213. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the recommendations of Sachdev Committee to overcome power shortage in West Bengal in the Third Five Year Plan period will be implemented; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) and (b) Out of the five new schemes recommended by the Committee, two have already been approved for implementation. It has not so far been possible to accept the other three schemes suggested by the Committee due to foreign exchange difficulties.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know, Sir, whether there is acute power shortage in Calcutta prevailing just now and industrial production is greatly suffering as a result and, if so, what steps the Government propose to take to solve the crisis?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: There is a certain amount of shortage of power in the Calcutta area owing to which industries are at present suffering. We have taken several steps and we have temporarily asked the D.V.C. to see whether it would be possible for them to supply the Calcutta area some amount of power.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know, Sir, whether the State Government of West Bengal pressed for the construction of a power unit at Azimganj as extension of the Gauripur unit to 50 million watts, and that for the construction of the power units no foreign exchange would have been involved since agreement would have been reached with East European countries as they agreed to construct these projects? And is it a fact that the Sachdev Committee agreed to it but the Planning Commission rejected the proposal?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: There was some difficulty with reference to the above proposal. The Railway authorities expressed their inability to carry the required amount of coal to this area. The Government of West Bengal themselves have come out with an alternative proposal to have a 250 M.W. thermal power station at Azimganj. The project report of this is under examination by the C.W.P.C.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: As regards the extension to the Gauripur unit, you have said nothing.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: That is covered by my answer that we were not able to find sufficient foreign exchange.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: When will the power unit of the D.V.C. at Chandrapur be built? Will it be built at all?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I am not able to answer all these questions.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Are you going to build any power unit of the D.V.C. at Chandrapur?