

MR. CHAIRMAN: But then he is not in a position to find it out just at the moment. So, you may table another question.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौर-  
झिया : श्रीमन्, सप्लीमेंटरी पूछने का मतलब क्या होता है ?

श्री सभापति : सप्लीमेंटरी सवाल की मालूमात मिनिस्टर के पास न हो तो बाद में वह हासिल की जा सकती है ।

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौर-  
झिया : जबकि स्थिति स्पष्ट है कि उन्होंने वसूल किया है ।

श्री सभापति : जब मिनिस्टर साहब कहते हैं कि इस वक़्त मालूम नहीं है तो वे क्या जवाब दें । मालूमात होगी तभी जवाब देंगे ।

#### EXTENSIONS TO CLASS I OFFICERS IN THE RAILWAY BOARD

\*207. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Class I Officers in the Railway Board who are at present on extension; and

(b) how many of them have been given two or more than two extensions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Eleven.

(b) Seven.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, if there are any rules for granting these extensions, or it is left to the free choice of the Government?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Generally the age for retirement is 55 but Government have taken the decision that in the case of technical persons extensions can be given up to the age of 58 provided the officer concerned

continues to be in good health and his efficiency is good.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, how many Railway Board Members were given extensions during the last five years?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: For that I would require separate notice, because I have not got the figures for five years. The present question relates to the present position.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, the number of officers of Class I who applied for extension but refused the same, and what are the reasons for the refusal?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I do not think normally a Class I Officer would apply for extension. It is a decision which is taken by Government in public interest; it is not done to oblige any particular officer, and I do not think it is customary for any Class I Officer to apply for extension.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know, Sir, if technical persons are given extensions only in case they are engaged in technical jobs and not otherwise?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: The jobs as such are not classified as technical and non-technical, and there can be a difference of opinion as to whether, for instance, a particular job is technical or not. A certain measure of specialised knowledge is required in all high posts.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know, Sir, if the Railway Board Members and the General Managers are considered technical people?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Generally, Sir, managerial posts, as such, are not considered technical.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I would like to know whether, prior to giving extensions to railway officers, any consultations are held with the

Union Public Service Commission and whether the rules do not require a procedure of this kind so far as extensions to the services are concerned?

**SARDAR SWARAN SINGH:** For granting extensions to Members of the Railway Board or even in the case of General Managers consultation with the Union Public Service Commission is not necessary. There is an internal arrangement, and these cases are decided at the Cabinet level by a Committee of the Cabinet known as the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

**SHRI NIREN GHOSH:** May I know, Sir, whether there was no one among the Class II staff who could be promoted to fill these vacancies, and if there was, why this opportunity was not availed of?

**SARDAR SWARAN SINGH:** I could not follow the question.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Please repeat your question.

**SHRI NIREN GHOSH:** There have been these extensions granted after their superannuation and if they had not been granted these extensions vacancies would have occurred which could have been filled up by other persons, by promoting Class II Officers. I am asking whether there were no such suitable men to fill these vacancies.

**SARDAR SWARAN SINGH:** That is quite obvious and so the extension is granted, though it may be that somebody else's promotion may be blocked or somebody's promotion may be postponed.

**SHRI NIREN GHOSH:** Will this concession apply to Class III Officers also?

**SARDAR SWARAN SINGH:** If the officer or the employee concerned is required to continue in service in public interest, in the interests of administration, then this rule is extended to him also.

**SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR:** May I know, Sir, whether this extension rule applies to other services also, to Class II, Class III and Class IV Officers if they are technical posts?

**SARDAR SWARAN SINGH:** I have already attempted to give the information on that.

**SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN:** The hon. Minister just said that it is not customary for anybody to apply for extension, but may I know if anybody did apply during the last two years for extension, from among the Members of the Railway Board?

**SARDAR SWARAN SINGH:** From among, the Members of the Railway Board no one applied for extension. If there is any information in the possession of the hon. Member in which a Class I Officer had applied for extension, I can certainly look up the papers. He can pass the information on to me.

#### SETTING UP OF A COUNCIL FOR INDIGENOUS SYSTEMS OF MEDICINE

\*208. **SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN:** Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a Central Council for Indigenous Systems of Medicine; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be set up?

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR):** (a) and (b) A Central Council of Ayurvedic Research has already been set up. Through it, the Government is getting the advice of the profession for the promotion of Ayurveda. Suggestions have been received for setting up a Central Council for indigenous medicine and are under examination.

**SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN:** What are going to be the functions of this Council?