SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I am told that in 1956 the price was as much as Rs. 85 lakhs but it has now come down to Rs. 18 lakhs.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN RAILWAY BOARD AND THE RAILWAYMEN FOR CONFIR-MATION OF EMPLOYEES OFFICIATING IN HIGHER GRADES

- *11. DR. R. B. GOUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether an agreement has been reached between the Railway Board and the representatives of the Railwaymen to the effect that employees officiating in higher grades eighteen months shall be confirmed in that grade; if so,
- (b) whether that agreement has been implemented;
- (c) whether any complaints of non-implementation of the agreement have been received by Government: and
- (d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what action has been taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAIL-WAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). In view of the reply to part (a) above, these do not arise.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Is it not a fact that an agreement has been reached that employees officiating in nonfortuitous posts will not be reverted after 18 months?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No agreement as such with the N.F.I.R. has been arrived at although certain instructions from the Railway Board in routine manner have been issued.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Is it not a fact that instructions have been issued that no employees who have been officiating in non-fortuitous posts for more than 18 months should be reverted unless the reversion is penal?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: It is true that certain instructions have been issued but these instructions have not been issued as a result of any agreement with the N.F.I.R.

Dr. R. B. GOUR: But you have come to this settlement. Has agreement or this concession been implemented?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Yes. Sir. Any instructions that are issued are meant to be implemented.

Dr. R. B. GOUR: Have you received any complaint from Guntakal that certain Assistant Station Masters are not being confirmed in their higher posts?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You say that instructions are meant to be implemented. What he asks is, have there been cases where the meaning has not been carried out?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: He is talking about confirmations but instructions have been issued regarding reversions.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Does it not mean that they would not be reverted and so they would be confirmed in the officiating posts?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Not . quite. They will be confirmed when there are vacancies in the permanent posts.

Dr. R. B. GOUR: The very fact that they are officiating in non-fortuitous posts must . . .

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Next question.