

[Shri J. S. Bisht.]

check ticketless travel which is creating trouble, these railway magistrates should be absorbed into a sort of permanent cadre. Only when they have some security of service, some sort of promotion and have got a stake in the whole matter, these things will improve. But if they are kept only for a short period of three years and so on, they would be hand in glove with the ticket-collectors and ticket-checking inspectors who connive at this sort of ticketless travel, or course, with some profit to themselves.

(Time bell rings.)

Sir, I request you to give me a couple of minutes only, because I want to mention one particular point and that is the number of staff. The number of staff is very high. We have got about 10,23,118 people on the railway staff to run 34,000 route miles. It is rather very heavy. If you compare this with the American Railways who have practically the same number of staff for about 2,25,000 route miles. I am not in favour of retrenchment, because we want to create more employment. But when you expand your Railways, you may absorb them there. But, however, I feel that the number of people employed is rather too high and that is what is responsible for this very high cost. It is costing us about Rs. 148½ crores in their salaries alone and as compared to Class I and II, it is only 3,000 people, costing Rs. 3,30,00,000 annually. It is this class III and class IV which is over-staffed and which is costing us a very huge amount. You may employ them anywhere else, but I believe you must economise on that account. (Time bell rings.) Just one point more Sir.

I agree with the view that the Railways are not really making a good profit out of the investment that belongs to the nation. Actually they give us only 4 per cent. on the capital investment, and it should be remembered that that 4 per cent. includes the interest. Out of Rs. 43 crores that comes to the Central Revenues Rs. 37 crores and odd lakhs goes by

way of paying interest. Only Rs. 6 crores and some lakhs goes to the Central Revenues. Just imagine, Sir, Rs. 6,07,00,000 on a capital investment of nearly Rs. 1,000 crores! This is not a balance-sheet which can be approved by any company or a corporation run on business lines. I therefore hope that something will be done in this respect.

Thank you.

MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA

I. THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1957

II. THE STATE BANK OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1957

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary of the Lok Sabha:

I

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 1957, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 27th May, 1957."

II

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the State Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 1957, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 27th May, 1957."

Sir, I lay the Bills on the Table.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. B. JOSHI): The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at two minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 28th May 1957.