

or they were worth going into and also in view of the fact that the permanent negotiating machinery did not work well, should not the Government take a sympathetic attitude while taking action against these employees ?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: This was not a matter which was to be considered by any negotiating machinery or by any party either. This was not a demand put forward by the Union. All of a sudden some people got out and they felt that their pay should be given to them before the regular date fixed. Therefore, in this particular case the question of the negotiating machinery does not arise. But when I say that the negotiating machinery should function well, I might inform the hon. Members that I have a feeling that there has been some improvement at least for some time past.

RICE GROWING IN SHIFTS

*547. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:
Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Rice Research Institute at Cut-tack has evolved a process by which rice can be grown in one and the same field in three and more shifts: and

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government for increased adoption of this process by the rice-growers in general?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, by publicity in Press, and through State Departments of Agriculture.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Is it a fact that its success has got reference only to laboratory methods or has it produced results in actual practice also?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It is likely to be successful only where there is perennial irrigation.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether areas which have not got this perennial water supply all the year round can benefit from this?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It will be very difficult to secure this benefit in all such areas. 2—27 Rajya Sabha/56.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

*548. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any estimate for the development of the North-Eastern Railway in its eastern regions to cope with the prospective demand in relation to the establishment of an oil refinery in Assam; and

(b) if so, what is that estimate?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. MONO MOHAN DAS): (a) The location of an oil refinery to refine the newly found oil in Assam has not yet been settled and therefore, no detailed estimate for the development of rail facilities has been made.

The whole problem is at present under examination by the Ministries concerned.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI PURNA CHANDRA SHARMA: Can there be no estimate made before the establishment of the oil refinery so as to give an idea of the cost involved?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: Until a decision is taken about the location of the refinery, the Government do not find any necessity for making an estimate.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether the development of the Railways here is dependent only on the location of the refinery or on some other factors also?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: It depends upon so many factors. So far as this particular case is concerned, as has been put in the original question, expansion will be necessary if the refinery is located there.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Is the Government aware that one of the reasons advanced for not establishing the refinery in Assam is that the Railways cannot cope with the transport of the increased quantity of oil which will be produced?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: It is true that additional rail facilities will have to be provided if the refinery is set up in Assam and a Committee has recently been set up. Various Ministries are

represented on that Committee—Ministries of Natural Resources, Production, Works, Housing and Supply, Finance and the Railway Board. This Committee has been set up to recommend a suitable location for a refinery having a capacity of one million tons. When this Committee will submit the Report, the Railways will also have to plan for the development of transport accordingly.

SHRI PURNA CHANDRA SHARMA: Will not this Committee be required to investigate into the cost of additional transport facilities that may be necessary for the refinery?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Yes, they are bound to do that. I might inform the hon. Member that I have already asked the Railway Board to prepare a tentative programme and an estimate of the cost. Of course, it will have to be finalised only later when the Committee has submitted its Report. But I have already asked the Railway Board to proceed ahead in that direction.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Is the hon. Minister aware that for the purpose of

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या सरकार को सूचना है कि इस ऑयल रिफाइनरी के बारे में आसाम में जो एजिटेशन चल रहा है उसके सिल-सिले में बहुत सी रेल की पटरियाँ उखाड़ दी गई हैं? तो उसमें रेलवे को कितना नुकसान हुआ है?

श्री लाल बहादुर : यह एक अजीब बात है। एक तरफ तो रेलवेज की मांग की जा रही है और दूसरी तरफ रेल की लाइनें उखाड़ी जा रही हैं। ताज्जुब की बात तो यह है कि फिर भी वहाँ पर कुछ लोग इस तरह की बातें कर रहे हैं कि जिसके लिये हमारे पास कोई चारा नहीं है।

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : इस तरह से कितनी रेलवे लाइनें उखाड़ी गई हैं और उसमें रेलवे को कितना नुकसान हुआ है?

श्री लाल बहादुर : इस वक्त मेरे पास इस के फगर्स नहीं हैं।

ascertaining definitely whether this refinery is to be established in Assam or not certain figures will be required by the Expert Committee and for that purpose is the Minister preparing any estimate which will be helpful to the Expert Committee?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: I have already said that the Railway Board is looking into that matter and preparing an estimate. They are also represented on that Committee and naturally the Committee will have the benefit of their advice.

SELECTION OF DISTRICT MANAGERS EMPLOYED BY AIR-INDIA INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

*541. **DR. RAGHUBIR SINH (ON BEHALF OF SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA):**

Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to my Starred Question No. 72 in the Rajaya Sabha on the 1st August 1956, and state:

(a) whether the Air-India International Corporation had advertised the post of the District Manager at Delhi; if so, what was the number of 'applicants interviewed for that post;

(b) whether any basic academic qualifications are required for the selection and appointment to the posts of the District Managers in the Air-India International Corporation in the country; and

(c) whether there is a permanent Selection Board for these managerial posts?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):
(a) The post was not advertised, as it was filled up by promotion of an officer in the Traffic Department.

(b) No basic academic qualifications have been laid down for the post of District Manager by the Air-India International Corporation.

(c) The selection of managerial personnel is done by a selection panel consisting of not less than three senior officers of the Corporation..

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know whether in the case of posts which could be thus filled by promotion, the matter is not referred to the Union Public Service Commission?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: There is no question of Union Public Service Commission so far as these Corporations are concerned. They are autonomous bodies; they have got their own rules or practices for recruitment and selection.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question hour is over.