

draft model rules under the Act have also been finalised and forwarded to State Governments for adoption.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether the Government has received any complaint about interference with their trade union activities relating to their rights to organise associations?

SHRI ABID ALI: At the time of the Tripartite Conference some reference about this was made, but I am not able to recollect to which particular area it referred to.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: I want to know whether after the Plantation Labour Act was brought into force the Government has received any complaints about the violation by the management of the provisions of the Plantation Labour Act as regards the right of labour to trade union organisation?

SHRI ABID ALI: That is what I said. At that time and also subsequently we have received some complaints, but it will not be possible for me to name the specific area or the union.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it not a fact that the Government received complaints from the Darjeeling area at least as regards interference by the British manager of a tea estate with their rights of trade union organisation?

SHRI ABID ALI: For this specific question I would require notice.

**JOINT SENIORITY OF HX-BENGAL
DOOARS RAILWAY**

*282. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the recommendations of Seniority Committee regarding the determination of joint seniority of the ex-Bengal Dooars Railway staff now employed on the North Eastern Railway have been implemented or not?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V.

ALAGESAN): Attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to Starred Question No. 419 on 20th April 1954 in this House. The seniority of ex-Bengal Dooars Railway Company staff *vis-a-vis* the staff of the ex-Assam Railway has been determined for all grades but the seniority lists are still to be published for the information of the staff.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know how long it will take to publish this list?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It may not take long, Sir.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is the hon." Minister aware that this whole question has been under their consideration for a long time now and the employees concerned are suffering under certain hardships and difficulties because of this?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: I do not think its publication will take more than two to three months.

SHRI NARAYANDAS DAGA: Are the ex-Indian State Railway officers treated on a par with Indian Railway officers for the purpose of seniority?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: For the purpose of seniority it counts from the date of ___, but I suppose he means ex-Company Railways?

SHRI NARAYANDAS DAGA: No; ex-Indian State Railways.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: No, Sir. They have been integrated.

SHRI NARAYANDAS DAGA: Why; are they inefficient?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I do not think the hon. Member has understood the position. As far as the ex-Indian State Railways are concerned, they have been integrated with the Government Railways. This refers to the case of small Company Railways which have been taken over.