

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: He may know several things. I cannot vouch for all his knowledge.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Who is that officer and on what post is that officer from the ex-State Railway who is there on a tenure post?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: If he wants any details about one particular officer, I can give it outside this Chamber.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: I want this because, to my knowledge, there is not one single officer.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has given the number as one. You wanted to know only the number. About other information, you will have it in private.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: There may be some objection to giving the name but he might designate the office.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The office is Assistant Director of Statistics.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: The hon. Minister told me just now that it is only the Member of the Railway Board who are in tenure posts but now he tells me that the Assistant Director is one of those officers.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Let him refer to the question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It refers to question (b) that you have asked.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: May I know when this Assistant Director of Statistics was appointed?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: From 9th June 1953.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: Are there any of the ex-State Railway officers in the Establishment Department?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are concerned only with tenure officers. The question is only about tenure

officers. He says it is 5 and you have all the information.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: May I know the period of tenure of the Members of the Railway Board?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Five years.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are 22 questions and every hon. Member feels that his question is important.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know the number of officers that are employed in the Railway Board so that we may be able to appreciate that one out of them is from the ex-State Railways?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In part (a) of your question you asked the number of officers of the Railway Board on tenure basis—the answer is 4. Part (b) of the question is, "how many officers are from the ex-State Railways"—the answer is 1.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: I am asking supplementary question to part (b).

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: (b) refers to officers of the Railway Board from the ex-State Railways.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It is only 1.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: How many officers are there?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I should like to have notice.

RAILWAY SERVICES (SAFEGUARDING OF NATIONAL SECURITY) RULES, 1954

*576. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state the reasons for which the Railway Services (Safeguarding of National Security) Rules, 1949, have been replaced by the Railway Services (Safeguarding of National Security) Rules, 1954?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): The revision was made to remove certain defects.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know what were the defects?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Certain employees affected had taken the matter to the court and the court pointed out certain defects and they have been removed in the latest orders.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He wants to know what are the defects that have been removed.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I may mention one or two things. Under the former rules it was the appropriate authority that was to pass an order of termination. There were some difficulties about it and now it is the President that makes this termination order. Also the employees who had been given notice under this were asked to go on leave previously and now they will be placed under suspension so that they will be granted the allowances due to them. These are some of the changes made.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Am I to take it that the right of the employees to seek redress in the courts has been taken away under the new rules?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: No.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it a fact that under the new rules the chance of offering explanation by any charge-sheeted employee has been taken away?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: He is asked to give explanation and also the Advisory Board is there.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: The hon. Minister said that formerly the appropriate authority used to issue orders of dismissal or suspension but now only the President of India can do that. Am I to take it that after taking

the explanation of the employee concerned into consideration, the President will pass orders?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Yes.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether there is any scope of appeal?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: There is no appeal from this but if he finds that the rules have not been followed, he can take that matter to the court. There is no appeal as such lying against the action taken under this.

SHRI PRASADARAO: Is it a fact that under this even trade union activities are illegal?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Not at all.

LOANS TO SHIPPING COMPANIES

*577. DR. R. P. DUBE: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state whether it is proposed to discontinue the giving of loans to shipping companies for purchase of ships after the target of 6 lakh tons in the Five Year Plan is reached?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): No, Sir.

DR. R. P. DUBE: How much of this, target has been attained?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I think this has been answered over and over again on the floor of this House. The same Member put the same question. One thing that is to be remembered is that shipping is in private sector. What Government is doing is to aid the private sector to its utmost so that they may get the additional tonnage. Now the target has been fixed, as everyone knows, as 6 lakh tons and there has been additional acquisition from the beginning of the plan period till now. The tonnage obtained so far is 1,49,000 tons and 60,000 tons have been scrapped in this period. So there is a net addition of 89,000 tons. Wa-