

COUNCIL OF STATES

Monday, 14th September 1953

The Council met at a quarter past eight of the clock in the morning, Mr. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

REPATRIATION OF COAL MINE LABOUR IN BIHAR

*296. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers repatriated from the coal mines in Bihar during the year 1952-53; and

(b) the reasons for their repatriation?

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI V. V. GIRI): (a) Presumably the reference is to labourers recruited through the Gorakhpur Labour Organisation. If so, the number of labourers repatriated is 1,977.

(b) The main reason for the repatriation of Gorakhpuri labourers was the expiry of their term of contract. In a few cases the labourers were repatriated on medical grounds or on the labourers' own request for premature repatriation.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Were they given any passage money to go back to their homes?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: Yes.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Were they given any compensation after the period was over?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I do not think they were given any compensation. They come and work for 11 months and then go back.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is there any proposal to have a labour pool so that labour may be recruited and sent back, as is done in the case of military labour?

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SHRI V. V. GIRI: Nothing of the kind.

DIFFERENCE IN THE SCALES OF PAY OF MATRICULATES AND NON-MATRICULATES IN THE LOCO RUNNING STAFF

*297. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received by Government from non-matriculates in the Loco Running Staff to the effect that although their service is of the same duration and on the same or similar trains as those of matriculates, yet there is a difference in the scales of pay;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken on these representations;

(c) how many persons have been affected adversely due to the difference in the scales of pay;

(d) when this differentiation was introduced; and

(e) whether such differentiation exists in other departments of the Railways?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received.

(b) As the difference in the scale of pay of these staff is due to the method and purpose of their recruitment it is not intended to make any change.

(c) As there is no difference in the scale of pay of men recruited in identical circumstances and whose avenue of promotion is the same, nobody has been adversely affected.

(d) 1st January 1949.

(e) The position in the other departments is different. Matriculation is usually the minimum educational qualification prescribed for direct recruitment to the lowest grade of Class III and non-matriculates get no opportunity of direct recruitment to Class III posts in those departments.