

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is the Minister aware that he is ignoring his own constituency?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I will not be partial to it.

DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN THE EASTERN RAILWAY ZONE

*7. SHRIMATI SHOILA BALA DAS: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) (i) the number of Divisional Headquarters in the Eastern Railway Zone; and (ii) the names of the places and the States where they are located;

(b) whether Government propose to have some new headquarters in the Eastern Zone; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, the States and the places where such headquarters are proposed to be located?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) (i) Five Divisional Headquarters and one Regional Headquarter.

(ii) Sealdah, Howrah and Asansol in West Bengal, Dinapore and Dhanbad in Bihar and Bilaspur (Regional) in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Government have at present no intention to set up new headquarters in the Eastern Zone.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know whether the Minister for Railways has received any representation from the people in Orissa?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Yes, Sir. Such a representation has been received.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Was the representation for the purpose of opening of an office in Orissa?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: At present there are three Headquarters offices of the Eastern Railway in the State of Orissa, Khurda Road, Cuttack and Titlagarh. If any new Divisional headquarter is to be opened, they said that Orissa should be favourably considered, and we are having it under our consideration.

AN HON. MEMBER: What was the reply, Sir?

MR. Chairman: They said that if any new headquarter was to be opened, Orissa should be favourably considered. The Government are considering it.

STRIKE OF TEMPORARY GANGMEN ON THE LINE FROM SIVI AND MAHALIMARUP TO GHATSILA ON THE EASTERN RAILWAY

*8. SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 400 temporary gangmen went on strike from the 28th May 1953, on the line from Sivi and Mahalimarup to Ghatsila on the Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, what were the grievances and demands of these gangmen?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) No. The Eastern Railway reports that approximately 120 casual labour working as gangmen in the Tatanagar area left work and ultimately returned after about a week.

(b) The gangmen concerned did not put forward any grievances or demands but they left work on hearing that casual labour were sought to be recruited on certain new terms.