

*170 & *171. [The questioner, Maulana M. Faruqi, was absent.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

*672. SHRIMATI SHOILA BALA DAS: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give 'doles' to unemployed Indians till they get employment; and

(b) whether Government propose to bring in any legislation for unemployment insurance in India; if so when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) and (b). Government have no such proposals under consideration.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask the hon. Minister whether the proposals of the various committees which reported on the subject in the past have been considered by my hon. friend?

SHRI ABID ALI: Yes, Sir. Due consideration have been given to the reports of the committees which have dealt with this question.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask whether my hon. friend's attention has been drawn to the report of the Royal Commission on Labour which reported as far back as 1931?

SHRI ABID ALI: I require notice.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I further ask whether the hon. Minister has studied the reports of the various committees which examined the question of unemployment?

SHRI ABID ALI: As I said earlier, all these reports have received consideration. As regards information about particular reports and about particular action, I require notice.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask whether in respect of the reports received, my hon. friend's department

have come to any conclusions on the question of the grave unemployment situation in the country?

SHRI ABID ALI: More detailed consideration was given by the Planning Commission, and they have formulated their scheme.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask if the hon. Minister is satisfied with the formulation of a scheme, in view of the serious situation of unemployment in the country, and whether that scheme is related to any plan for the adoption of unemployment insurance?

SHRI ABID ALI: We are perfectly satisfied with what the Planning Commission has said, and in the light of the changing circumstances, they are giving day-to-day consideration to this problem, and every attempt is being made to solve it.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask whether it is not the duty of my hon. friend, in view of the seriousness of the situation, to formulate certain definite proposals in respect of unemployment insurance or any other scheme of this nature; and has the Ministry considered this matter in this light or not?

SHRI ABID ALI: Certainly, Sir, it is our duty and my feeling is that under the existing circumstances we are doing all that is possible.

SHRI B. GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if the hon. Minister is aware that the organised labour movement throughout the country has demanded unemployment assistance?

SHRI ABID ALI: I do not know that but as I have said, whatever is possible is being done.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR SARNATH

*673. SHRI B. B. SHARMA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any railway accident occurred near Sarnath on the North-Eastern Railway in April, 1953; and

(b) if so, what was the

(i) number of the persons who were killed; and

(ii) extent of loss to the private and public property as a result of the accident?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes. At about 10.45 hours on 25th April 1953, 374 Down Passenger train derailed between Sarnath and Kadipur stations on the North Eastern Railway.

(b) (i) Three.

(ii) The approximate cost of damage to Railway property was Rs. 8,500. No damage to any private property has so far been reported.

SHRI B. B. SHARMA: Sir, what was the cause of the trouble?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The provisional finding of the Government Inspector is that the accident was caused due to the failure of the staff employed for oiling and greasing the fish-plates.

SHRI B. B. SHARMA: Were not the fish-plates very old?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: No, Sir.

SHRI B. RATH: When were the rails replaced in this particular place last?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The track on the site of the accident was thoroughly overhauled in 1953.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: May I ask the hon. Minister what connection has the oiling of fish-plates with the railway accident.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Because of their neglect, Sir?

SHRI S. M. HEMROM: Do the fish-plates require oiling and greasing?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The full report will be available soon and the reasons for the accident will be better known then, Sir.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: Is the hon. Minister aware of the function of the fish-plates?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pawar.

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED THROUGH EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

*674. SHRI D. Y. PAWAR: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state the percentage of persons employed by—

(i) the Central and State Governments; and

(ii) private bodies and individuals; through the Employment Exchanges out of the total unemployed persons registered upto the month of October, 1952?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): Out of 28.4 per cent. of the registrants placed in employment, 11.7 per cent. were placed in Government and 14.7 per cent. in private establishments.

SHRI D. Y. PAWAR: Is there any scheme under the consideration of Government to give relief to the persons whose age has exceeded the limit?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we can't follow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is: Are you prepared to make some age-relaxations?

SHRI ABID ALI: Sir, that question has to be addressed to the Home Ministry.

PROF. G. RANGA: Have Government received any complaint, Sir, about the corruption that is creeping into the operation of these labour exchanges that they are demanding money from the people who go there to get themselves registered and who wish that