

COUNCIL OF 'STATES

Tuesday, 25th November 1952

The Council met at a quarter to eleven of the clock, MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF RAILWAY STAFF

•17. DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the anomaly that exists in the scales of pay of directly recruited graduates in Grade II on the Railways and de-partmentally promoted clerks in that grade and if so what steps are being taken to put an end to this anomaly ; and

(b) whether the Loco staff, such as the drivers on the Northern Railway have not yet been granted the same rates of travelling allowance as have been granted to Guards in the Ghazi-abad Division ; and if so, what are the reasons for this difference ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : (a) Government are aware that the directly recruited graduates are on the scale of Rs. 80—220 while the departmentally promoted clerks are on Rs. 55—130. There is no anomaly and the question of taking any steps to put an end to the anomaly does not arise.

(b) It is correct that Loco running staff on the Northern Railway have not been granted the same rates of running allowance as Guards in Delhi Division. There is no anomaly in this. The reason for this is that there had been a considerable fall in the running allowances earned by these Guards, after the introduction of the Revised Running Allowance Rules, whereas in the case of Drivers there has been no similar loss. 41 CSD

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL : May I know from my hon. friend if this is correct that the anomaly which he denies was put right by the Railway Board a few days ago ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : No, Sir. As I answered before an injustice was noticed in the case of the Guards of the Delhi area and not in the case of the Loco running staff.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL : May I know whether he does not recognise the existence of an anomaly where the directly recruited graduate clerks are doing exactly the same type of work that is being done by those who are not graduates ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, I may inform the hon. Member that the Joint Advisory Committee which went into this question considered the cases of both categories and they have stipulated that these graduates should be put on a higher scale. They also said that 75 per cent, of the total number of clerks should be on the lower scale.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL : What I suggest is this. These categories of clerks are doing exactly the same kind of work. In the one case they are recruited as graduate clerks and in the other they are given promotion. The quality of work is the same and the duties are the same. Why should there be a distinction in the rates of pay ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I think the hon. Member is trying to argue the point. As I have already said, these people are promoted, whereas the others are directly recruited.

STAFF OF THE COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY

*18. DIWAN CHAMAN LALL : Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether Government propose to provide any negotiating machinery in respect of their dealings with the trade unions of the staff controlled by the Communications Ministry as in the case of the Railways ?