

(b) Yes. The case is under investigation by the police.

Irrigation Facilities for Drought Stricken Areas in Punjab

*1168. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to the Punjab State Government for providing irrigation facilities in the drought stricken areas of the State so far; and

(b) the nature of facilities provided for irrigation with the help of this amount?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) An amount of Rs. 38.5 lakhs has been allocated under the Programme of Permanent Improvement of Scarcity Areas.

(b) Dadri irrigation scheme is the only scheme under execution by the Government of Punjab under this Programme. It provides for the re-modelling of Bhiwani Distributary on the Western Jumna Canal and is expected to irrigate 50,000 acres.

Shri Daljit Singh: May I know if there is a proposal under consideration of the Government to construct small dams for this purpose?

Shri Hathi: There is no programme of constructing small dams in this scheme. This scheme envisages only remodelling of the existing canals.

Mr. Speaker: What is the number of the question that Shri Pande wanted to be answered?

Shri C. D. Pande: Question No. 1106, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: It may be answered.

Extension of Service for Railway Employees

*1166. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Class II officers under Eastern Railway were granted

extension of service beyond 55 years of age during 1957 and upto the end of February 1958; and

(b) if so, their number?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir. No class II officer was granted extension of service during this period.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri C. D. Pande: In view of the fact that there is a great deal of difference in the age of retirement in different States and in different departments, will Government consider the advisability of adopting a uniform policy in this regard?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: That question, Sir, should not be put to the Railway Minister.

Mr. Speaker: What, to the Railway Minister?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I am sorry, Sir. That question should not be put to the Railway Minister.

Shri C. D. Pande: There are Class II and Class III officers even in the Railways.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know about the Railways itself.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: There is no disparity on the Railways. The age of superannuation is 55 years.

Shri C. D. Pande: For all classes?

Shri Radha Raman: May I also request you to direct that Question No. 1173 be answered?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Bharat Sewak Samaj

*1173. Shri Kunhan: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Body of the Bharat Sewak Samaj is conducting a training centre for supervisor-cum-accountants for construction works in Delhi;

(b) if so, the present number of students at the centre;

(c) whether it is also a fact that it is now proposed to close down the centre from the 31st March, 1958; and

(d) if so, what alternative arrangements Government propose to make to enable the present trainees of the centre to complete their studies?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir. The course is for a year only from the 3rd April, 1957.

(b) 38.

(c) Yes, on completion of the present course.

(d) The question does not arise, as the course is only for a year.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether some arrangements are being made for these trainees' future either by the Government or by the Bharat Sewak Samaj?

Shri Hathi: The Government does not promise any employment or anything else. These training centres are being run under the auspices of the Bharat Sewak Samaj. Government only gives them some financial assistance. When these people are trained, the Bharat Sewak Samaj puts them on various works that they are undertaking and also finds employment for them in other agencies. For example, some of these people are being taken in the National Construction Corporation.

Shri Radha Raman: Was similar training imparted in some other places in the country and what has been the result?

Shri Hathi: I think about four training centres were there. One was at Kosi, one at Nagarjunsagar, one at Chambal and one in Delhi. The Kosi trainees were about 250 in number and all of them are working on the flood embankment and the canal digging which the people have taken up.

Shri Vajpayee: Is it a fact that the trainees are on strike for the last ten days and the complaint is that

the diploma that will be given to them will have no value? What are the reasons for the strike?

Shri Hathi: There is no question of any strike or of any diploma, because I do not think that Bharat Sewak Samaj would be giving a diploma. At the most they can give a certificate. I do not think they ever intended to give a diploma.

Shri Vajpayee: Is it a fact that while students were admitted for the training of supervisor-cum-accountants they are being given the training of draftsmen or works mistries?

Mr. Speaker: Were they induced to come on the expectation that they would be trained for supervisor's post, but were given only draftsman's training?

Shri Hathi: They should be supervisors, i.e., mistries who could take up supervisory work, which is taken by the village labour co-operatives.

12 hrs.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

Working Journalists' Wage Board

+

Shri Feroze Gandhi:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Braj Raj Singh:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri A. K. Gopalan
Shri V. P. Nayar:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri Surendranath

Dwivedy:

S.N.Q. 7. Shri Yajnik:

Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Bimal Ghose:
Shri Panigrahi:
Shri Jagdish Awasthi:
Shri Prabhat Kar:
Shrimati Parvathi
Krishnan:
Shrimati Renn
Chakravarty:

Shri Naushir Bharucha:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(b) whether Government are aware that the Supreme Court has declared