

GOLDEN ROCK WORKSHOP WORKERS (NIGHT DUTY ALLOWANCE)

***1452. Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that night-duty allowance granted to workers in the Golden Rock Workshop has been discontinued and if so, from which date;

(b) whether it is a fact that similar allowance is being given to workers in Perambur Workshop on the same Railway; and

(c) whether there was any representation in this connection and if so, what action has been taken?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes. Payment of this allowance to the skilled staff at Golden Rock Workshops was discontinued from 1-9-1951.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. This allowance has since been restored at Golden Rock to staff who were formerly in receipt of it.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether this has been restored in the case of Class III and IV employees also?

Shri Alagesan: All those who were in receipt of this allowance, are now getting it.

FORBESGANJ—BIRPORE TELEGRAPH LINE

***1453. Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to construct a telegraph line from Forbesganj to Birpore via Narpatganj and Balwabazar in Bihar?

(b) If so, when is it expected to be materialised?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) The guarantee terms have been forwarded to the Bihar Government. On receipt of their acceptance the work will be taken up.

PRIVATE-OWNED RAILWAY LINES

***1454. Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the names of private Railway Companies running Railway lines in different States?

(b) What are their mileage and the revenue received by Government from them?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). I place on the Table of the House a statement giving the required information. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 34]

Shri L. N. Mishra: From the statement it appears that the Government have not received any share of profits from the privately-owned companies in Bihar. May I know the reason.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It is rather a long statement. The whole information has been placed on the Table of the House, and whatever information is in the statement is correct.

Shri L. N. Mishra: There is no information about that. I want to know the reason why Government are not receiving any share of profit from the privately-owned companies in Bihar?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Now, in all, there are 21 privately-owned railways in India. Out of this, in 10, Government have certain financial interests. In others, Government have no such interest.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government are contemplating the taking over of some privately-owned companies this year?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It all depends on the terms of contracts that the Government of India has entered into with those privately-owned companies.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government of India have approached the Government of Bihar in regard to taking over the privately run railway lines, in that State, as was promised by the hon. Minister during his Budget speech?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): The matter is still under discussion between the Chairman of the Railway Board and the Bihar Government. The Chairman of the Railway Board is to visit Patna very soon in this connection.

RAYAGADA RAILWAY COLONY

***1455. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plant required for the water supply scheme at the

Raygada Railway Colony (Eastern Railway Zone) has been received;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, when the arrival of the plant is expected; and

(c) what steps have been taken to expedite it?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) In the course of the next few months.

(c) The suppliers have been reminded to expedite delivery.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether the Government are willing to supply the surplus water to the Raygada town?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): After the requirements of the Railway Colony are fully met it will be considered, and not before that.

TRANSFER AND VERIFICATION OF POSTAL CASH CERTIFICATES AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS BY PAKISTAN

*1456. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether the provisions of Indo-Pakistan agreement with regard to the transfer and verification of the Postal Cash Certificates and Postal Savings Accounts have been implemented by Pakistan?

(b) What is the aggregate sum for which such claims have been filed under different categories?

(c) What is the amount so far verified by Pakistan?

(d) What amount has been paid to claimants so far?

(e) Has any amount of money been received from Pakistan with regard to these claims?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, upto the time when the agreement was temporarily suspended at the time of devaluation of the Indian rupee. The question of resumption of verification is under correspondence with the Pakistan Postal Administration.

(b) Post Office Savings Bank Accounts. Rs. 4,40,35,376/-; Postal Certificates. Rs. 2,81,69,656/-.

In addition, there are a large number of claims duly registered in which full

and correct particulars are not known to the claimants. The approximate amounts of claims in such cases aggregate to Rs. 34,75,852/- for Post Office Savings Bank Accounts and Rs. 25,85,952/- for Postal Certificates standing open or registered in Pakistan Post Offices.

(c) Postal Savings Bank Accounts. Rs. 2,89,25,463/-; Postal Certificates. Rs. 1,32,06,673/-.

(d) Information not available. On transfer of accounts and certificates from Pakistan to India, parties can take payments of their deposits and holdings in part or in full, whenever they like.

(e) Transfers are admitted pending adjustment of accounts and not on the basis of immediate cash payment by one country to the other. Debits are raised and accepted on reciprocal basis. Actual cash payment is to be demanded after the final balance is struck. Pakistan has admitted a part of the debit raised.

Shri Gidwani: What is the total value of the difference between the liabilities of India and those of Pakistan in this respect?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That depends upon the claims which have been registered in Pakistan and which we do not know.

Shri Gidwani: Have the Government received a number of representations from the affected parties that they have been heavily suffering because of the delay in the settlement of the question?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Representations have been received and we very much regret that the matter is beyond our control, because it depends upon some sort of a bilateral agreement between the two countries.

Shri Gidwani: Can we arrive at any settlement unilaterally, if there is no agreement between Pakistan and India, and can any final date be fixed regarding this matter?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That is not a matter on which I can say anything. This matter should be referred to the hon. Minister of Rehabilitation.

DELHI IMPROVEMENT TRUST

*1457. **Shri Radha Raman:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Delhi Improvement Trust in its 'Slum-clearance' scheme of Delhi Gate and Ajmeri Gate was forcing on the House-