

(c) Yes. On all Railways these cadres have been fixed.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** Is it the intention of the Administration to confirm these temporary incumbents?

**Shri Alagesan:** These posts will be made permanent soon.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** How soon, Sir?

**Shri Alagesan:** It will not take long.

#### NORTHERN RAILWAY (UNIONS)

\*368. **Shri Frank Anthony:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the recognised unions on the Northern Railway;

(b) the number of members in each of these recognised unions;

(c) the dates on which each of these unions was recognised; and

(d) whether the membership and accounts of each of these unions have been certified by Registered Auditors?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The Northern Railway Staff Association is the only one Union which is at present provisionally recognised by the General Manager, Northern Railway, but there are a few other Unions which were recognised on the component units of that Railway, prior to integration, which are also functioning on those portions as an interim measure pending their amalgamation.

(b) The number of members of the Northern Railway Staff Association is 17,859, but Government have no information of the membership of the other Unions referred to in reply to part (a) of this question.

(c) The Northern Railway Staff Association was provisionally recognised by the General Manager, Northern Railway, on 10th November 1952, but Government have no information relating to the date of recognition of each of the other Unions referred to in reply to part (a) of this question.

(d) The audited figures will be available after 31st March, 1953.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** Before granting recognition, does Government undertake any check of the finances of these Unions?

**Shri Alagesan:** They are recognised according to rules laid down which

were given to the House several times. We do not undertake any financial check.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** What provision, if any, is there to eliminate the submission of bogus membership figures?

**Shri Alagesan:** These membership figures are audited every year and they are taken if genuine.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** Is any attempt made to compare the day-to-day figures with the cash balances with the Unions?

**Shri Alagesan:** I think the Auditor's report goes into all these things.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know what are the conditions laid down by the General Managers or the people concerned to give recognition?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member wants him to read all the rules and regulations?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Yes, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No, Sir.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** This is very important.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I cannot understand; are we going into all the rules and regulations on the floor of the House? The hon. Member may ask for a copy of the rules and go into them.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know what steps Government have taken in cases where there is a rival claimant for recognition?

**Shri Alagesan:** There is no question of rival claims.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May we know to which of the All India Railway Labour Federations these Unions are affiliated?

**Shri Alagesan:** I have not got that information. I will get that information and send it to the hon. Member if he wants.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Next question.

#### FREIGHT ON BOOKS

\*369. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the new classification of goods made by the Railway has placed 'books' in the 14th class.

(b) whether it is a fact that the new freight on books is heavier than the, freight on luxury goods; and