

(b) The rehabilitation programmes of all Railways, including the Northern Railway, have been accelerated as much as possible.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, what is the normal age of a locomotive in terms of years and in terms of miles?

Shri Alagesan: It is 40 years.

Mr. Speaker: The next question is, what is the age in terms of miles.

Shri Alagesan: I think after every 1½ lakh miles there is overhaul.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, how many of these locomotives run on the main lines and how many on branch lines?

Shri Alagesan: I do not have the figures.

RAILWAY THEFT

*954. **Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a hold up of the 333 Dn. train coming from Pahleja Ghat to Sonepur Railway station in the North-Eastern Railway on the night of 30th December, 1953 and an iron safe containing Railway cash was removed from the brake-van of the train; and

(b) if so, what was the result of the investigations?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) There was no hold up of this train, but an iron Travelling Cash Safe containing railway cash was removed from its break-van during its run.

(b) The Cash Safe was recovered intact about ½ mile away from the railway track at telegraph post No. 2/4 between Palezaghat and Sonepore.

The final report from the police is awaited.

Shri S. N. Das: In view of the fact that the safe was taken away when the train was running, may I know at what speed the train was running

at that time, and how it was possible to remove it?

Shri Alagesan: I do not have any information about the speed.

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): Whatever may be the speed, it can be thrown out.

PAY SCALES ON RAILWAYS

*955. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference in the pay scale of one and the same category of services in the different zones of the Railways;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, (i) the reasons for the same and (ii) the amount of differences in pay scale in each category; and

(c) whether there are cases of difference in pay scale within a zone itself?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). Uniformity in this regard as between zones and within a zone has been sought to be achieved by implementation of the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission and the Joint Advisory Committee. But if the hon. Member would like to bring any specific cases to our notice the Railway Board would be asked to look into them.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know, Sir, if the proof readers on the Nizam's State Railway draw less salary than their counterparts on the Eastern Railway?

Shri Alagesan: We can look into it. But in these cases the duties and responsibilities differ, though the designation may be the same. If the hon. Member wants, we can certainly look into them.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know whether it is not a fact that the pay-scales of the same category of staff

in the Golden Rock and Perambur workshops are different and it has created a lot of frustration among the staff?

Shri Alagesan: I would like to know to which category he is referring to. He can furnish details later.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

INDIAN FOREST COLLEGE, DEHRA
DUN

*956. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Estimates Committee regarding reduction of the training fees of the students of the Indian Forest College, Dehra Dun and bringing the same to the level of those in other professional Colleges and selection of the students by open competition have been accepted by Government; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Estimates Committee are under consideration.

Shri Gidwani: Is it a fact that students are selected and nominated by each State and their expenses are borne by those States?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes; I do not know if any portion of the expenditure contributed by the State is taken from the students.

Shri Gidwani: What is the difference between the fees charged from the foreign students and those charged from the students from the States?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: In one case it is fees and in the other case it is a contribution for meeting the expenditure. If there is any doubt about our giving any extra concessions to the foreign students, I would like to

point out that the only foreign students that we have admitted here came from Nepal and Ceylon. Five came from Ceylon and 6 from Nepal.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know, as the Estimates Committee Reports are made in time for the next Budget, whether in preparing the Budget any effort is made to see that the decisions of the Committee are incorporated in the Budget?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: During the course of the examination of the recommendations of the Estimates Committee, every effort is made to try and accept the Committee's recommendation and wherever we are in a position to accept them, the necessary economies will certainly be made.

POSTMEN IN GORAKHPUR DIVISION

*957. **Shri Dhusiya:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of temporary and permanent postmen separately in the Gorakhpur Division; and

(b) the number of Scheduled caste persons among them?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

(a) Temporary	12
Permanent	310
(b) Temporary	1
Permanent	4

श्री धूसिया : इन नम्बर्स से जाहिर होता है कि शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोगों की लादाद बहुत कम है। क्या यह जो नम्बर कम है तो यह कोई गवर्नमेंट आफिशियल्स की या गवर्नमेंट की शलती से है? अगर गवर्नमेंट की शलती से है जिस को दूर किया जा सकता है, तो उस में गवर्नमेंट क्या कर रही है?

श्री राज बहादुर : इस में कोई शक नहीं कि पूरी कोशिश नहीं की गयी, वरना जितने