

Government gone into the question and come to some conclusions?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Representation in this respect has been received from vendors, and the high-powered Committee of which the hon. the Deputy Minister is the Chairman is considering that matter very seriously.

Shri Gidwani: Is it contemplated to change the system of giving licence to big contractors to one of giving the licences to small contractors or individual contractors?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: That matter also is receiving very serious consideration.

MINOR IRRIGATION WORKS IN PUNJAB

*2089. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently approved a programme of Minor Irrigation Works in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the amount allocated for it?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 233.37 lakhs.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Central Government gave any directive to the State Government to pay special attention to scarcity areas like Una in Hoshiarpur district and Hamirpur in Kangra district?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We do not specify any areas to any State Government. But since we are anxious to provide for the scarcity areas more particularly, as a general rule attention is invited to see that the scarcity areas in any particular State are attended to.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Central Government gave any directive to the State Government to look particularly into the conditions of those districts like Hoshiarpur and Kangra which are backward in this respect?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It would be going too far if we were to issue any directive as such.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if it is the policy of the Government not to give any directive to the State Government so far as the distribution of this is concerned?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The State Governments are responsible governments, and I am sure they will not make any mistake with regard to the proper choice.

Shri Heda: May I know what remedy lies with the Central Government in spite of their directive the State Government neglect or ignore certain parts of the scarcity areas?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am sure they will do the needful.

Shri S. N. Das: In view of the fact that the scheme for minor irrigation works in Punjab has been given by the hon. Minister, will he kindly place a copy of the statement giving fuller facts about all the States on the Table of the House?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Every Member coming from each State has in turn asked this question, Sir, and most of the replies are already known to the House.

LOCOMOTIVES AND WAGONS

*2076. **Shri T. K. Chaudhuri** (on behalf of **Shri N. Sreekantan Nair**): Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many locomotives and wagons have been purchased under the Indo-U.S. Technical Co-operation Programme; and

(b) from which countries and at what prices?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) None so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: 2062, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Has he got the authority?

Shri M. D. Ramasami: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: He should produce it in time. He may put that question.

SELECTION POSTS ON RAILWAYS

*2062. **Shri M. D. Ramasami** (on behalf of **Shri Muniswamy**): (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that certain posts on the scale of Rs. 150—225 on Railways are to be classified as selection posts?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the posts classified as such?

(c) Is this classification power left to the individual Railway Administration or a uniform policy will be followed throughout Indian Railways?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) A uniform policy will be followed, as far as possible.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : सेलेक्शन पोस्ट्स के लिये जोनल सिस्टम बनने के बाद क्या यह सच है कि जो पुरानी एरियाज थीं, उन में जो लोग कार्य करते थे उनको यह जगहें नहीं दी जाती हैं ?

Shri Alagesan: It is not correct. The Railway Board have laid down certain uniform principles, and on the basis of those principles the various Railway Administrations have been asked to compile combined seniority lists.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : सेलेक्शन प्रेंडस के सम्बन्ध में इस तरह की कितनी रिपोर्टें रेलवे बोर्ड और मंत्री महोदय के पास हुंची हैं ?

रेल तथा परिवहन मंत्री (श्री एल० बी० सास्त्री) : जो सवाल है वह दूसरे विषय

पर है। माननीय सदस्य कुछ गलती कर रहे हैं। जिन बातों को वह पूछ रहे हैं उनका इस सवाल से कोई मतलब नहीं है। सवाल सिर्फ यह है कि एक हद तक सीनियारिटी से प्रमोशन देने का फैसला रेलवे मिनिस्ट्री ने किया। उसी के अन्दर कुछ जगहें ऐसी हैं जिन के लिये सीनियारिटी से नहीं बल्कि सेलेक्शन से भरने का फैसला किया गया है। सवाल यह था कि आया उन सब जगहों के लिये एक सी नीति होगी या कि कुछ फर्क होगा, तो उसका जवाब यह है कि हम इस के कायदे बना रहे हैं और मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि हमारी सब के लिये समान नीति होगी।

Mr. Speaker: The Question list is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SHIPPING

*2072. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the total share of the export trade of this country booked with the Indian shipping during 1953-54?

(b) What steps are Government taking to secure a greater share of the export trade for the Indian Shipping?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Information is available only for the calendar year 1953 and it shows that Indian shipping had carried 3,88,668 dead-weight tons of export cargo in the overseas trades during that year. Attention of the hon. Member is also invited in this connection to the reply given to starred question No. 1870 asked by Shri Raghunath Singh on the 19th April 1954.

(b) Since shipping is in the private sector of our economy and our export trade is largely in private hands, it is for the Indian shipping companies themselves to take the initiative for securing adequate cargo for their ships