

Shri Hukam Singh: Are only clerks and sorters trained there or are any officers also given training?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This institution is meant only for postal clerks and R.M.S. sorters.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know in which place in Chota Nagpur this centre is going to be opened?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The place has not yet been settled. It may be in Ranchi, or some other suitable place.

Shri Hukam Singh: Is any instruction given in this institution on the social side, namely, polite treatment of the public, courtesy, etc.?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That is implied. Every postal employee is expected to be ideally courteous.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that Class I postal officers were trained in Saharanpur in similar institutions?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I don't think so. This is meant for postal clerks and R.M.S. sorters.

SOCIAL GUIDES

*800. **Shri Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of social guides at important railway Stations has been reduced; and

(b) if so, for what reasons?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). The number has been reduced in keeping with revised requirements.

Shri Hukam Singh: May I know whether this experiment on the different Railways ever since its inception in August 1948 has proved to be of any utility to the public?

Shri Satish Chandra: Mr. Santhanam after some of his extensive tours felt that the public were not getting the kind of assistance that was anticipated and that the number of these guides was unduly large.

Shri Hukam Singh: What is the percentage of reduction brought about in the institution of social guides?

Shri Satish Chandra: The number has been reduced from 277 where it originally stood to 152.

Shrimati A. Kale: May I know whether there are any women working as social guides?

Shri Satish Chandra: I must plead I am not quite aware.

Shri Badshah Gupta: May I know the saving that has been effected on account of the reduction in the number?

Shri Satish Chandra: I cannot give the exact figure just now, but the persons who have been retrenched have been absorbed in railway services. In some cases, they refused to be so absorbed as they were primarily social workers.

Shri Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that after three years of service all of them were given notice and only 50 per cent. of them have been re-absorbed at half the pay they were getting before?

Shri Satish Chandra: As far as my information goes, everybody who wanted to be absorbed has been absorbed.

KHARAGPUR RAILWAY STAFF (AMENITIES)

*801. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the amount that will be spent for the amenities of the railway staff at Kharagpur in 1952-53?

(b) What are the different heads of expenditure with the amount against them?

(c) Are the condemned class IV quarters at Kharagpur going to be demolished this year?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Rs. 12,94,000.

(b) The distribution of the proposed expenditure is as follows:—

New Staff quarters	... Rs. 4,44,000
Improvement to existing quarters	... Rs. 6,85,000
Medical facilities	... Rs. 54,000
Miscellaneous amenities	... Rs. 1,11,000
TOTAL	... Rs. 12,94,000

(c) There is no proposal to demolish any class IV staff quarters at Kharagpur at present.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether repeated representations have been received by the hon. Minister from the employees at Kharagpur about the want of accommodation for students in the railway schools there?