

**SUPPRESSION OF TRADE UNION ACTIVITIES  
ON SOUTHERN RAILWAY**

\*129. **Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the S.I. Railway Labour Union has made a written representation to the Railway Board dated 27th March, 1952 concerning "suppression of Trade Union activities" on the Southern Railway;

(b) if so, whether a copy of the said representation will be placed on the Table of the House; and

(c) what action the Railway Board has taken on the representation?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) Yes.

(b) It is regretted that copies of such departmental correspondence cannot be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) In accordance with the policy followed in these matters no action is taken by the Railway Board on communications received from unrecognised Unions except on matters relating to their recognition.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether it is a fact that 6 executive secretaries of the Labour Union were transferred 300 miles away from their posts for the reason that they had taken part in the trade union activities?

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** They were not transferred because they were office bearers of this union, but they were transferred on administrative grounds.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know why this 6 executive secretaries of the Union were alone transferred for administrative reasons whereas thousands of others were left alone?

**Mr. Speaker:** Can the hon. Minister answer it now?

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** It is difficult to answer this question.

**Shri Nambiar:** I have the names of these secretaries. . .

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not necessary. The hon. Member can write to him and ask for the information. Next question.

**TELE-COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE AT  
JABALPUR**

\*130. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of recurring and non-recurring expenditure in building,

establishing and maintaining the Tele-Communications Centre at Jabalpur;

(b) the number of trainees who can take up a regular course of training in the Centre and the time which each trainee shall take in completing the training;

(c) whether the trainees will be admitted in the Centre and maintained at Government cost or they will have to bear their own expenditure of training etc.; and

(d) whether the trainees are required to give any undertaking to the Government?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) Non-recurring Rs. 21;40 Lakhs. Recurring: Rs. 6;91 Lakhs.

(b) 300 at a time. The length of the courses ranges from 3 to 12 months for various categories of trainees.

(c) The trainees are not required to pay for the cost of training. Direct recruits are paid by Government a suitable monthly allowance. Departmental officials receive their usual pay and allowances.

(d) Yes, except Assistant Divisional Engineers and Departmental candidates.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know who provides the syllabus or the course of study for the Centre, and is the Centre its own examining body?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I think the syllabus is provided by the Ministry, and, of course, the officers are the examiners.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know what is the reason that the Centre has been located in Madhya Pradesh and that too in Jabalpur?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Does it require an answer?

**Mr. Speaker:** We will go to the next question.

**FOOD SUBSIDY**

\*131. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for abolishing food subsidy to the States; and

(b) whether this step was consented to by all the States?