

Shri Bell Ram Das: Has any survey been made in the State of Assam to open out a new Railway Line at all?

Shri Alagesan: It is too early to say.

Shri Bell Ram Das: Considering the strategic position of the State, will it be possible for the Government of India to open out a new Railway Line from Pandu to Garo Hills?

Shri Alagesan: It refers to a particular line. How far it will be economical and what priority it will get it is too early to say.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Will the programme for construction of new lines involve the sacrifice of the restoration programme of dismantled lines?

Shri Alagesan: Restoration of dismantled lines is very much in our minds.

Shri Bell Ram Das: In view of the fact that the Government of India has agreed to supply coal to Pakistan and the fact that there are millions of tons of coal available in Garo Hills, will it not be a paying proposition to open a new Railway Line from Pandu to Garo Hills to extract coals from Garo Hills?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These are by way of suggestions.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the new line which is being constructed in the Travancore-Cochin State will be a metre gauge or a broad gauge? If it is not a broad gauge, what was the special reason for making it a metre gauge?

Shri Alagesan: I think it has not yet been decided whether it should be broad gauge or metre gauge.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know if there is any priority for electrifying suburban lines in the construction of new lines?

Shri Alagesan: I cannot give the stage of priority for that. We are very much interested in electrifying the Calcutta suburban section.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether Government have come to any decision as regards the gauge to be used in future construction of Railways: whether it is to be metre gauge or broad gauge or narrow gauge?

Shri Alagesan: No categorical reply can be given to this question. It all depends upon the circumstances, the area in which the line is constructed and so on.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether, in certain areas where famine conditions are prevailing, with a view to provide relief work and employment to these people, Government have drawn out any programme of new line construction in Madras, Mysore and Rayalaseema?

Shri Alagesan: The Quilon-Ernakulam line is a major instance in point.

ANGLO-INDIAN RAILWAY SCHOOL TEACHERS (PAY SCALES)

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board had issued instructions on the 5th February, 1952 to all the Railways for the implementation of prescribed scales of pay for teachers in Anglo-Indian railway schools;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that this directive has not yet been implemented on the Southern Railway;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what action Government propose to take in the matter; and

(d) whether the teachers will get arrears of pay in respect of enhanced scales and, if so, from what date?

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

(b) and (c). On the Southern Railway the implementation of the prescribed scales for Anglo-Indian Schools has been completed in respect of all Primary Schools. In respect of Middle Schools, however, the implementation is still in progress. Some unavoidable delay was involved due to reorganisation and redistribution of charges of the teaching staff commensurate with the new pay scales and to reconcile certain anomalies arising out of the implementation of the new pay scales. The Railway Administration are doing their best to expedite matters and no special enquiry to this matter is called for.

(d) Yes. The staff concerned are eligible for arrears of pay from 1st January 1947 or 16th August 1947 according to their option, except in the case of such staff whose pay scales had already been revised once before after 1st January 1947. In the latter case arrears, if any, will be paid from 5th February 1952 the date of issue of revised pay scales.

Shri Frank Anthony: May I know when the revised scales were implemented in respect of primary schools?

Shri Alagesan: It has been implemented and the pay sheets for arrears of pay as from 1st July 1947 are being prepared. This work is being expedited.

Shri Frank Anthony: My question is not answered. I wanted to know exactly from when these revised scales were applied to primary schools in the Southern Railway.

Shri Alagesan: This was applied from 1st July 1947. The order was issued on 5th February 1952. Back pay and arrears are being worked out. They will be getting them very shortly.

Shri Frank Anthony: May I know whether the revised scales were introduced for non-primary schools in other Railways, such as Central Railway?

Shri Alagesan: I do not have the information at present.

Dr. Ram Subbag Srinath: May I know whether the revised scales of pay are applicable to other schools, which are non-Anglo-Indian?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question refers to Anglo-Indian schools.

Shri Alagesan: I may inform the House that there is no difference in the scales of pay.

Shrimati A. Kale: What is the pay of these Anglo-Indian teachers and how does it compare with non-Anglo-Indian teachers?

Shri Alagesan: I have answered the question; there is no difference in the scales of pay.

Shri Barrow: May I know if the hon. Minister is aware that several teachers appointed in the Southern Railway schools, previous to 1941, will be receiving smaller salaries than other teachers who have the same qualifications, are of equal status, but have less experience?

Shri Alagesan: That is one of the reasons why there is some delay with regard to middle school teachers. All these anomalies will be avoided.

Shri Frank Anthony: Is the Government aware of the fact that revised up-graded scales were introduced for non-Anglo-Indian Railway schools in about 1947?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is giving information.

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty: May I know why this difference between Anglo-Indian and non-Anglo-Indian schools? Is there any difference in the facilities?

Shri Alagesan: No.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if non-Anglo-Indian children are allowed in these Anglo-Indian schools?

Shri Alagesan: I think they can also study. I am not quite definite on the matter. I shall give the information to the hon. Member.

Shri Frank Anthony: Is it not a fact that under the Constitution at least 40 per cent. of non-Anglo-Indians must be admitted to these schools?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are we entering into a discussion now? Is there any trouble? I want to know.

Shri Frank Anthony: I am stating this because.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. Hon. Members will go to the lobby and discuss the matter. Mr. Sreekantam Nair.

Shri Frank Anthony: I only wanted.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is wrong. One hon. Member makes a suggestion. That has been answered. If the suggestion is improper, I would have disallowed that. At the same time, if the hon. Member goes on carrying a debate with respect to that matter, let other platforms be chosen for that purpose.

Shri Frank Anthony: I wanted to make this statement that the questions were based on lack of information which may create a misapprehension.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member need not go on giving information. Then I will have to look to him and not to the Minister.

Shri N. Sreekantam Nair: May I know why five years were allowed to elapse so that Government have to pay for five years now with retrospective effect?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They are not paying interest. Next question.

Shri N. Sreekantam Nair: But, five years have elapsed.

DEBARRING OF GOVERNMENT DOCTORS FROM PRIVATE PRACTICE

*922. **Dr. Rama Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the Government of India have accepted the recommendation of the Health Ministers' Conference held in 1948, regarding debarring of Government doctors from private practice?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for the said decision?