

Shri Abid Ali: I require notice of that question.

Shri Kap Narain: May I know, Sir, whether the Central Government has taken any responsibility for the employment of these trainees?

Shri Abid Ali: We try to get them employment; but we have not given any undertaking.

श्री गणपति राज : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट इस तरह की ट्रेनिंग पाने वालों के लिये कोई ऐसा प्राविजन भी बना रही है जिस से उनको ट्रेनिंग खत्म करने के बाद कुछ लोन्स भी दिये जा सकें ?

श्रीभाबिबिअली : ट्रेनिंग के बाद उन को कुछ दिये जाने की कोई स्कीम नहीं है ।

LABOUR WELFARE ORGANISATION

*1177. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Labour Welfare Organisation as it exists at present on different Railways is under the Administrative control of the various General Managers or the Departments concerned;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Labour Ministry, Central Government, sometime back had proposed that this organisation should function directly under its control and not under the Administrative control of the respective Railways; and

(c) if so, what has happened to the proposal?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (**Shri Alagesan**): (a) The Labour Welfare Organisation or the Personnel Organisation as it exists at present on different Railways is partly directly under the control of the General Managers, while in the case of others as e.g. in workshops, the Employment Officers are under the control of the Department concerned.

(b) No. We are not aware of any such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what are the duties and functions of these officers?

Shri Alagesan: These officers are in the Personnel Organisation of the

railways. They look after the promotion, transfer, fixation of pay, grant of leave, provision of educational facilities, etc. These are the functions and duties of the officers.

Shri Sankaran Singh: May I know, Sir, whether there is any Gazetted welfare officer in North East Railway?

Shri Alagesan: We have 249 posts. Of them two or three are Gazetted.

TEA INDUSTRY

*1178. **Shrimati Jayashri:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tea Industry has to shoulder the responsibility of feeding its labour; and

(b) whether any other industries have been asked to shoulder similar responsibility of feeding their labour?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (**Shri Abid Ali**): (a) In Assam, West Bengal and Mysore, tea estates supply foodgrains to labourers at concessional rates. This practice has been in vogue since long. In Madras and Travancore-Cochin, except where statutory rationing is in force estates act as ration shops and supply foodgrains at cost price.

(b) In collieries also employers supply foodgrains at concessional rates to workers.

Shrimati Jayashri: May I know whether it is a fact that some of the owners of tea gardens have made representations that they are finding it difficult to shoulder this responsibility?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, Sir; several representations have been received.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know whether it is a fact that the Assam Tea Gardens undertook to give rations to their labour at concessional rates even at the time of recruitment?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, it is a fact.

Shri Venkataraman: In view of such undertaking, do Government propose to consider their request that feeding their labour should be taken away from their responsibility?

Shri Abid Ali: No. Government do not propose to take away or curtail the concession to the workers. This matter has been placed in the agenda for the tripartite conference which will take place on the 19th and 20th of this month where the labour representatives will also be present, and their views will be ascertained.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know what decision has been taken on the representations which they have made?

Shri Abid Ali: We have decided not to curtail this concession, for the time being at least.

Shri Dhusiya: What were the new difficulties which the employers had to face in feeding the labour? Since when have they been facing them, and what were the reasons?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wants to know how long have the employers been finding it difficult to provide rations to their labour according to the agreement.

Shri Abid Ali: For two or three years they have been submitting representations.

Shri Sanganna: May I know what steps are taken at the time of recruitment to make the labour know the conditions they are to undergo in the tea gardens?

Shri Abid Ali: All the service conditions are explained to the workers.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether it is the intention of the Government to see that the money spent by the labourers for paying more price for the foodgrains is paid by the employers as per their terms of agreement?

Shri Abid Ali: Government does not propose to impose any change to the detriment of labour.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is on the assumption that they will be asked to pay more. There is a tripartite conference.

Shri B. S. Murthy: As per the agreement the employer has got to provide the foodgrains at concessional rates. But the labourers have been purchasing foodgrains at the higher prices. May I know whether it is the intention of the Government to see that the difference in price is paid by the employers for the past period?

Shri Abid Ali: No higher prices are being paid by the workers according to our information, Sir.

SURVEY OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

*1179. **Shri Jagan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board have appointed a special officer to undertake a special

survey with a view to encourage and promote the organisation of the co-operative societies amongst the Railway workers;

(b) if so, whether any plan has been submitted by the special officer;

(c) whether Government propose to place a copy of the Plan on the Table of the House; and

(d) what steps have so far been taken by the Railway authorities for the implementation of this plan?

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

(a) Yes.

(b), (c) and (d). The officer has submitted a report which is under examination by Government.

Shri Jagan: May I know for what type of co-operative societies the survey was made—multi-purpose, credit societies, consumers or industrial?

Shri Alagesan: The survey has been made by the officer concerned, and he has submitted a detailed report. His recommendations are now under examination by the Government. It was with reference to multi-purpose societies and co-operative wholesale stores, etc.

Shri B. S. Murthy: When was the report submitted and how long do Government propose to take in order to implement the recommendations contained in the report?

Shri Alagesan: The report was submitted some time back. The Government may take some time in arriving at their conclusions.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know when this officer was appointed?

Shri Alagesan: I think in February, 1952.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know when he submitted his report?

Shri Alagesan: In the month of September.

MESSAGE RATE SYSTEM

*1180. **Shri Madhoo Reddi:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Government propose to extend the "Message rate system" to Hyderabad State during the year 1952-53?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadar): Yes; it is proposed to introduce the Message Rate system at Hyderabad sometime in 1953.