

Shri L. B. Shastri : Yes, Sir. We have recently appointed a small committee on each railway to visit the book-stalls and also help in screening the lists of books to be purchased.

Shri Sadhan Gupta : Since the question of attaching sleeping cars to railway trains has been long on the agenda, may I know whether any steps have been taken to introduce sleeping cars at least in all the Janata trains and, if so, in which trains are they to be introduced ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : As I said, the matter is still under consideration but the sleeping cars will be attached to Janata trains first. The idea is to provide sleeping coaches on the Janata trains first and then we might consider attaching these coaches to other trains.

Shri Kamath : Is the hon. Minister, Sir, aware of his eminent colleague, the Prime Minister's observation the other day with regard to his plan, the Prime Minister's plan to discourage railway travel in India on the Chinese or some new Indian pattern and, if so, is he in agreement with the Prime Minister on that issue ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : Well, there is no other alternative. If the House or if the hon. Member wants that we should be able to execute our plan and if we want that the railway should be able to carry raw materials as well as manufactured goods, there is no other alternative for the country or for the railways except to see to it that the passenger travel comes down or is reduced and more capacity is provided for the movement of goods and the running of goods train.

Shri Kamath : Does it mean that passenger coaches will be diverted to goods traffic ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : The hon. Member has to realise that the line is the same. On the same lines, goods trains as well as passenger trains have to run. Therefore, for providing more capacity for the goods trains to move, there is, as I said no alternative but to cut down the passenger services.

Shri R. P. Garg : May I know if the Government is aware that the railway book-stalls are reluctant to keep the books of Indian authors and they give preference to foreign publishers ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : It is not so. I have visited a number of stalls I think on all the railways, and I have not seen any such tendency. I have seen books of Indian authors as well as foreign authors.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : May I know by what time the Government would be able to replace the three-tier berths by double-tier berths ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : I think this question has been answered a number of times in this House.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : I want to know by what time it will be replaced. So much time has passed and I want to know whether any decision has been reached.

Shri L. B. Shastri : Well, I think decision will still take about five to six months.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*2452. **Shri Veeraswamy :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of the Joint Advisory Committee relating to the upgrading of the staff in ex.-S. I. Railway have been implemented ;

(b) if so, the categories of staff upgraded and those which are not yet upgraded ; and

(c) the reasons for delay in upgrading certain categories ?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) : (a) Yes, Sir, except one relating to Shunters and Firemen.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 44].

Shri Veeraswamy : May I know whether it is a fact that still there are several men in the ex-South-Indian units who have put in more than 15 years service but who have not been upgraded and who are still in the grade of Rs. 55-130, whereas in the ex-M. & S.M. units several people with less than ten years service have been upgraded ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : The hon. Member is entering into details. To the question he has asked, we have replied that only two categories of shunters and firemen have not been upgraded. This question had become somewhat complicated as the recommendations made by the JAC themselves were complicated. Now a formula has been evolved by which this upgrading will be easily implemented and I think within a few months' time the shunters and firemen will also be upgraded and there will be no complaints.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : May I know whether this formula was evolved in consultation with the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : That is my impression, Sir.

Sardar A. S. Saigal : May I know whether it is a fact that the recommendations about upgrading of the staff are not being followed in all the zonal railways ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : No, Sir. It has already been settled in regard to other railways and only the question had to be decided about this railway. That also has been settled and the recommendations will now be implemented.

Shri Veeraswamy : May I know whether the Railway Ministry has received a representation from the clerical staff of the commercial operating department of the ex-South-Indian Railway unit requesting for the implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Advisory Committee and, if so, what action has been taken on that?

Shri L. B. Shastri : Some representations have been received. But, as the hon. Member is aware, the general question of upgrading of all the categories in class III will soon be considered by the Railway Board. I have made an announcement in my budget speech about this and I hope it will be possible to take up that work early.

Shri Velayudhan : May I know whether, when the final standardisation comes, those employees who suffered will be getting the benefit with retrospective effect ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : Yes, Sir. I feel so. In the budget speech I have mentioned that it will be given retrospective effect ; that is, they will be getting from the 1st April, 1956.

C.T.O. WORKSHOP AT BAIRAGARH

*2453. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh :** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to wind up the Central Tractor Organisation base workshop at Bairagarh ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) what will happen to the equipment of that workshop ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) to (c). There is a proposal to wind up the Bairagarh workshop of the Central Tractor Organisation as a measure of economy. If it is finally decided to close the Bairagarh workshop, the equipment at Bairagarh needed for the Delhi workshop will be brought to Delhi. The rest will be disposed of.

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : जो कर्मचारी वहां पर काम करते हैं, क्या वे भी दिल्ली लाये जायेंगे या वे हटा दिये जायेंगे ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : कोशिश की जायेगी कि हम जब तक ऐन्जार्ज कर सकते हैं तब तक करेंगे ।

Shri Jangde : What is the reason that everything is being centralised at Delhi and many workshops and offices are being shifted from other places to Delhi ?