

this policy. But there are offices and rooms in divisional headquarters to which are airconditioned. I would personally like the whole building to be air-conditioned.

Dibrugarh Workshop

*1368. **Shri Debendra Nath Sarma** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether any definite plan has been formulated to expand the Dibrugarh Workshop on the North-Eastern Railway ; and

(b) if so, the nature of the plan?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (**Shri Alagesan**) : (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Railway Board.

Shri Debendra Nath Sarma : May I know whether this plan will materialise during the Second Five Year Plan?

Shri Alagesan : That is the intention.

Hill Allowance

*1369. **Shri B. D. Pande** : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that employees of almost all departments in the hills especially in the border area are given Hill Allowance ; and

(b) if so, the reasons why the Postal Department Officials are debarred from this allowance ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (**Shri Raj Bahadur**) : (a) Compensatory (hill) allowances are sanctioned on the basis of certain principles adopted on the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission and after taking into account the parallel practice of the State Governments concerned but without any specific reference to whether the hill stations are situated in the interior or in the border areas.

(b) P. & T. staff are also entitled to these allowances wherever sanctioned to the Central Government Staff.

Shri B. D. Pande : In view of the fact that the cost of living index in the hills is very great, especially in the border areas, will Government see that this allowance is sanctioned early?

Shri Raj Bahadur : We have to go by certain principles which are fixed after due examination of the situation obtaining in such areas. The Pay Commission in their report have divided them into three categories—hill stations, remote

localities and localities with unhealthy climate. We give the allowances according to this categorisation.

श्रीमती कमलेंद्रमति शाह : क्या मैं जान सकती हूँ कि जब और विभागों में एलाउंस दिया जाता है तो उन स्त्रियों को क्यों एलाउंस नहीं दिया जाता जो कि पहाड़ों के मैटरनिटी सेंटर्स में और चाइल्ड वेलफेअर सेंटर्स में काम करती हैं ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मैटरनिटी और चाइल्ड वेलफेअर सेंटर्स राज्य सरकारों के अधीन हैं ।

श्री हेमराज : इस वक्त जोगेन्द्र नगर और पालमपुर व अलहल में कम्पेन्सेटरी एलाउंस दिया जाता है, तो क्या वजह है कि उनके दरम्यान में बैजनाथ और पपरीला में नहीं दिया जाता ।

श्री राज बहादुर : मेरा अनुमान ऐसा है कि वहां पर राज्य सरकार भी नहीं देती होगी और केंद्रीय सरकार द्वारा भी यह निश्चय नहीं किया गया होगा कि उन स्थानों पर दिया जाय, इसलिए नहीं दिया जाता ।

Shri N. B. Chowdhury : May I know whether the postal employees at Kalka get this allowance?

Shri Raj Bahadur : I cannot say it offhand, but there is a complete list of such stations, and I can place a copy of the list on the Table if required.

Shri B. D. Pande : In view of the fact that postal clerks are overworked and they do a lot of honest work and sit late hours, will Government sympathetically consider this question of paying them hill allowances?

Shri Raj Bahadur : They are getting the hill allowances wherever they are entitled to it. Their pay scales are also fixed on the basis of their work and if they work over-time, they get extra payment.

Shri B. S. Murthy : More allowance because they are more honest.

Mr. Speaker : If any particular employee is overworked, it may induce him to ask for more. I do not know what advantage is gained in asking for a statement from the Minister about this.

Railway National Users Committee

*1370. **Shri Hem Raj** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the decisions of the Railway National