

(b) In respect of hours of work and periodic rest it is anticipated that the Railway Administration will be able to implement the Award in full by 31.3.1953. In respect of provision of leave reserves no definite target date can be given at present.

IMPORT OF RICE FROM CHINA

*88. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have entered into an Agreement with the Chinese Government in regard to the supply of more rice to India?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the terms of that agreement and how many tons of Chinese rice are expected to be received in India and when?

(c) If it is a barter deal, what are the commodities that India has to supply to China and at what rates?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 50,000 metric tons against cash payment during the months of November and December 1952.

(c) As already stated payment will be in cash.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES (FUNCTIONS)

8. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state what precise functions have the Employment Exchanges to play in the recruitment to Government and other services?

(b) Are there any directions to Recruiting Officers that they must insist on any introductory letters from the Employment Exchanges before they allow interview to candidates?

(c) Have the Employment Exchanges any discretions to send or to withhold any candidates registered with them with the requisite qualifications for a particular post?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) On the receipt of a request from Employing authorities for candidates to fill specified vacancies, Employment Exchanges submit to the authorities the most suitable candidates from among those registered with them. The final selection is left to the employing department or office.

(b) So far as recruitment to vacancies in Central Government offices and establishments is concerned, Government have instructed appointing authorities that no vacancy (except those that are filled through the Union Public Service Commission or by open competitive examination) should be

filled by direct recruitment unless the Employment Exchanges concerned certify that they are unable to supply suitable candidates. Exceptions to this rule, however, exist in the case of Railways and the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

(c) Yes, a limited discretion is used by the Employment Exchanges. They have specific instructions regarding selection of applicants. The best qualified applicants, according to the requirements of the employer, are selected, those who have been longest on the Live Register being considered first from amongst equally qualified applicants. Unless the employer has specified the exact number to be submitted, Employment Exchanges ordinarily submit 3 or 4 applicants against each vacancy. The selection is based on comparative suitability of applicants.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW TRAINS

9. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new trains so far introduced in different Railway Zones since 1st April, 1952; and

(b) the cost involved in introducing these new trains?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) During the period from 1st April to 1st October, 1952, 109 new trains have been introduced and the runs of 108 have been extended. This represents an increase of about 9915 daily train miles, 65 trains representing 3065 daily train miles, however, were cancelled and the net increase, therefore, is about 6850 daily train miles.

(b) On the basis of the All-India cost of hauling a passenger train one mile on the Broad and Metre Gauges during 1950-51 (the latest figures available) the daily cost of the net increase of train miles referred to in part (a) will be about Rs. 68,744.

PILOTS AND GROUND ENGINEERS

10. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the total number of pilots and ground engineers so far trained in India?

(b) How many are undergoing training?

(c) What is the amount spent annually by Government over the training of pilots and ground engineers separately?

(d) What is the constitution of the flying clubs and how are they associated with Government?