

**The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed):** (a) to (d). The requisite information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Rehabilitation of Scheduled Castes in Gujarat**

**7106. Shri D. R. Parmar:  
Shri Ramanand Shastri:**

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Scheduled Caste persons engaged in Weaving, tanning and leather home industries have been made jobless as a result of introduction of machinery and power facilities in Gujarat State;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any ameliorating steps for their rehabilitation;

(c) whether Government also propose to give any financial or other assistance to these persons for running and improving their home industries; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi):** (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Tea Board Employees Association,  
New Delhi**

**7107. Shri S. M. Joshi:  
Shri Madhu Limaye:  
Shri Molahu Prasad:  
Shri Shiv Charan Lal:**

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any charter of demands from the Tea Board Employees Association, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the main demands of the employees; and

(c) Government/Tea Board's reaction thereto?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1247/67].

**Employment of Children of Railway employees**

**7108. Shri S. M. Joshi:  
Shri Molahu Prasad:  
Shri Madhu Limaye:  
Shri Shiv Charan Lal:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a rule/convention/practice in the Railway that after death or retirement of a Railway employee, his son or near relation was taken into service with a view to alleviating the sufferings of his family;

(b) whether this practice/rule has since been discontinued;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to reconsider the decision?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha):** (a) to (d). In the past some special concession used to be given to children of railway employees in the matter of appointment on Railways. This has now been discontinued, as such a special treatment would be *ultra vires* of the Constitution. The General Managers of the Indian Railways have, however, been given discretionary powers to consider appointment, on compassionate grounds, of children/dependant relatives of Railway employees whose families are left in indigent circumstances owing to death or incapacitation of the employees.