appeal filed by M/s Nanak Chand Shadiram and have set aside their conviction. Further action will be considered in the light of the judgement.

JOBS IN HEAVY ELECTRICALS LTD., BHOPAL 5468. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH: SHRI A. SHREEDHARAN: SHRI GHAYOOR ALI KHAN

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Heavy Electricals Limited, Bhopal, is giving preference in jobs to graduates from Madhya Pradesh; and
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F.A. AHMED): (a) and (b): In the matter of recruitment of personnel to Public Sector Undertakings it has been recognised that it would be of advantage if persons who come from areas near about the place of location of the projects secure appointment to the posts in lower posts. According to the existing policy, recruitment to posts other than those of Class III and Class IV or equivalent grades is made through All India Advertisement and selections made on merits.

NEWSPRINT FACTORY IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

5469. SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Himachal Pradesh Government have accepted the recommendations of the Kane Committee regarding the establishment of a newsprint factory in Himachal Pradesh and the proproposal is pending with the Central Government for final approval; and
- (b) whether Government have since considered the proposal and if so, the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F.A. AHMED): (a) and (b): Dr. Kane Committee's recommendations referred to in the question were referred by the Himachal Pradesh Administration to the Central Government for advice-The Central Government have since commu-

nicated their views to the Himachal Pradesh: authorities.

TRAFFIC APRENTICES ON NORTHERN RAILWAY

5470. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY: SHRI K. HALDAR : SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA ;

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Traffic Apprentices on the Northern Railway submitted a memorandum to the authorities regarding the redressal of their grievances on the 2nd October, 1967;
 - (b) if so, their main grievances; and
 - (c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.M. POONACHA): (a) Yes.

- (b) Their main demands are issue of confirmation orders, reservation of a quota of vacancies in the supervisory and higher grades, maintenance of seniority lists on all Railway basis and earmarking certain number of higher grade posts to be filled by competition open to all railway servants.
- (c) The demands are receiving consideration of the appropriate authorities and such action as is considered necessary will be taken.

WAR SERVICE BENEFIT TO CLERKS ON EASTERN RAILWAY

5471. SHRI VISWANATHA MENON: SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: SHRI P. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of clerks of the Eastern Railway who were released from Army and were reemployed on the Railways have not been given the benefit of war service according to the Ministry of Home Affairs Mcmorandum No. 6/16/49-OS, dated 25th August 1949;
- (b) if so, total number of clerks not given the benefit of war service; and
 - (c) the reasons therefor ?