

**INTRODUCTION OF COMPUTERS ON
RAILWAYS**

5636. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the Railway Administrations which have introduced computers;

(b) the total number of employees that have become surplus with the introduction of computer system on the Railways; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to absorb the surplus employees ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Computers have been installed on four Zonal Railways—viz. Central, Southern, Western & Northern and in three Production Units—viz Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Integral Coach Factory/Perambur and Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi.

(b) No employee has become surplus on this account. Over a period of time, however, when the computer takes on some work now done manually, a few employees may be released from their present jobs and utilised on other jobs.

(c) Does not arise.

**TRADE UNION ACTIVITIES ON
RAILWAYS**

5637. SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to cripple trade union activities on Railways;

(b) if not, whether Government are aware that many workers are being victimised and harassed for their legitimate trade union activities; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor and the steps Government propose to take to ensure that such a victimisation is not done ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) No. In fact the Railways have the tradition of operating a Permanent Negotiating Machinery with a number of facilities for furthering legitimate Trade Union activities.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**DHARNA BY CASUAL LABOURERS ON
NORTHERN RAILWAY**

5638. SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of former casual labourers of authorised scales are on Dharna before the office of the Divisional Supdt. N. Rly. since November 6, 1967, as a protest against retrenchment of working employees and their replacement by candidates recruited from open market ; and

(b) if so, the action taken to redress their grievances ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes; six substitutes of Signal Telecommunication Department of Lucknow Division, Northern Railway, were on Dharna between 6th November, 1967 and 12th December 1967; and

(b) Since these substitutes were not eligible to be continued in service on account of their not having been empanelled as a result of selection, no action can be taken by the Railway Administration.

RAILWAY STAFF ON JODHPUR DIVISION

5639. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the staff on Jodhpur Division of the Western Railway has not been given the benefit of higher grade from 1st April, 1956 against 20 per cent vacancies reserved for Graduates as per orders of the Railway Board ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to upgrade the staff against the above vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**AUSTERITY TYPE SCHOOLS NEAR
RAILWAY COLONIES**

5640. SHRI RAM SINGH AYARWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :