

Howrah and withdrawal of punishments imposed during emergency in Indian Railway Traction Department

Comments:

One case under Section 376/379 IPC is pending against Shri Ghosh in the court of SDJM/Barrackpore. The question of taking him back would be considered after the pending case is decided by the court.

As regards Shri T. Rama Rao, he was removed from service under DAR w.e.f. 20-10-77 consequent on his conviction under Arms Act. He had submitted an appeal for re-employment which was rejected by the General Manager.

Regarding the punishments imposed on railway servants during emergency, remedial measures have already been taken to the extent feasible and necessary.

Performance of Delhi Parikarma Railway Service

225. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of Parikarma Railway Service, Delhi during the last one year has not been satisfactory;

(b) whether the demand of the residents of Narain Vihar, Inderpuri and Naraina village to locate the station near H Block of Narain Vihar had been ignored by the Railways;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government intend to shift the station keeping in view the demands of the people and enhance the earnings of the Railways; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) The

punctuality performance and patronisation of the circular trains in Delhi has been satisfactory.

(b) to (e). The proposal for opening of a halt between Narain Vihar halt and Brar square station or shifting of the station was examined but was found neither operationally feasible nor financially justified.

Loss to Railways due to flood-damaged Railway Lines

226. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

SHRI KACHARULAL HEM. RAJ JAIN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total loss suffered by the railways due to damages of railway lines throughout the country as a result of recent floods;

(b) steps taken or proposed to be taken to repair the damaged lines; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken to make up loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) About Rs. 30 crores which includes the loss of traffic earnings.

(b) Restoration work on the flood-affected sections was taken up on a war footing. With the exception of a few branch lines or narrow-gauge sections, all other affected sections have already been restored to traffic in a very short time. Restoration work on a few branch lines and narrow gauge sections, yet to be opened to traffic, is in progress and is expected to be completed during the next two months or so.

(c) The two ways to make up the loss are to economise on working expenses and increase the earnings. These measures were discussed with

the General Managers of Zonal Railways in the Works Programme meetings held in October/November 1978 as a result of which revised targets of working expenses and earnings were fixed.

Leave Reserve Station Masters

227. SHRI RAM PRAKASH TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board have issued orders for provision of leave reserve Station Masters/Asstt. Station Masters in the grade of 425—640 on all Indian Railways, 25 per cent of the total strength of leave reserve/A.S.M. grade 330—560;

(b) whether it is a fact that D.S. Delhi has provided 20 leave reserve ASMs grade 425—640 in Delhi on the total strength of 152 LR/ASMs grade 330—560; and

(c) if so, give reasons for less provision of leave reserve in ASMs grade 425—640 and the time by which the remaining LR/ASMs grade 425/-640 will be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c). Prior to 6-6-77 leave reserve for ASM/SM in the grade Rs. 330—560(RS) and Rs. 425—640(RS) was provided in the lowest grade of Rs. 330—560(RS).

In Ministry of Railways letter No. E(G)73LRI-9 Pt. II dated 6-6-77, instructions were issued that 25 per cent of the leave reserve for ASM/SM in grade Rs. 425—640(RS) should be provided in the category itself. This meant that out of the prescribed percentage of leave reserve for ASM/SM grade Rs. 425—640(RS), 25 per cent should be provided in the category itself i.e. Rs. 420—640(RS) and the balance in the category of ASM/SM grade Rs. 330—560(RS).

On Delhi Division of Northern Railway the total strength of ASM/SM in grade Rs. 425—640(RS) is 319 and in accordance with the prescribed percentage of 25 per cent leave reserve, this category is entitled to 80 posts of leave reserve in the initial grade Rs. 330—560(RS). Since 25 per cent of the leave reserve for ASM/SM grade Rs. 425—640(RS) is to be provided in the category itself, 25 per cent of the total number of leave reserve posts of 80 would come to 20 posts. 20 posts of leave reserve A.S.M. have, therefore, been correctly upgraded to grade Rs. 425—640(RS). In the circumstances the question of lesser provision of leave reserve in ASM/SM grade Rs. 425-640 (RS) does not arise.

Proposal to increase working strength of Punjab and Haryana High Courts

228. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to increase the working strength of the Punjab and Haryana High Courts;

(b) what is the extent of increase; and

(c) whether accommodation for the additional courts is readily available, if not, by which time it would be constructed, and after how much period the additional courts would start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) and (b). No proposal has been received by the Government of India so far from the Chandigarh Administration in this behalf.

(c) According to Chandigarh Administration there are 15 regular court rooms in the High Court building. Six additional court rooms are under construction which are expected to be ready by 31-3-79.