

made by the Development Council for Sugar Industry:—

(1) The Council should be a sustaining member of the Indian Standard Institution.

(2) Revised price differentials for different grades of sugar as suggested by the Council be adopted.

(3) Central Control over molasses be instituted.

(4) An Extension Service for improving the technical efficiency of sugar factories be established.

(5) A subsidy of Rs. 5,000 be granted to the Sugar Technologists Association to meet the cost of its publications.

(6) A subsidy of Rs. 61,000 be granted to the Saraya Distillery for conducting large scale experiments on a new process for extraction of sugar from waste molasses.

(7) A subsidy of Rs. 24,600 be granted to Andhra University for researches on Sugarcane Wax by Dr. M. N. Rao.

(b) The position in regard to implementation of the various recommendations is as follows:—

Item No. 1 has been implemented.

Item No. 2 has been accepted in principle but the revised differentials have not yet been notified in the absence of price control on sugar.

Item No. 3 is under examination.

Item Nos. 4—7 are pending for decision as to the source from which the schemes sponsored by the Development Council should be financed.

MALDA-KHEJURIA RAIL LINK

1151. Shri S. M. Ghose: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the construction of the Malda-Khejuria line will be taken up this year; and

(b) if so, when the work is expected to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) This Cannot be stated at present.

(b) Does not arise.

P. & T. DEPARTMENT (RECRUITMENT)

1152. Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure adopted for the recruitment of upper division clerks in Posts and Telegraphs Administrative Offices:

(b) whether it is a fact that although a majority of the posts are filled by selection after only an interview, yet all lower division clerks of the same department have to appear in an examination; and

(c) if so, the reasons for this discrimination?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Fifty per cent. of the vacancies are filled in from amongst outsiders on the basis of marks obtained by them in their degree examinations. Twenty-five per cent. of vacancies are filled in by selection of suitable subordinate office officials in Rs. 60/170 scale. The remaining 25 per cent. are filled in from amongst eligible lower division clerks of the office concerned on the basis of a merit rating test in P. & T. Guide and Precis Writing.

(b) Reply to part (a) of the question will indicate that the method of selection is not based on interview and that lower division clerks have to pass a test.

(c) The intention is to make the selection by competition. While for outsiders it is achieved by comparing marks of the degree examination, the same cannot be done for promotion of lower division clerks as the educational qualification is not insisted upon for departmental candidates.