

(b) how many centres have been visited by the trade testing teams of the Railways; and

(c) how many of such persons have accepted the alternative jobs offered?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) 3415

(b) 64

(c) 2223.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know whether those who have been employed by the Railway Ministry—2,223—are all semi-skilled or unskilled. To what category do they belong?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** They belong to all categories, but an overwhelming majority of them belong to the unskilled category.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know whether those who declined the offer have given any reasons for their not accepting the jobs?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** We have offered the jobs. We do not know for what reasons some of them have not accepted them.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know whether it is a fact that, while fixing their salary, the salary that they drew when they were in the ordnance depots was not taken into consideration, and that this was the reason why they refused to accept the offer?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** The hon. Member will admit that we have had to launch a very special drive in the course of two or three months and we were able to offer about 3,400 jobs. Out of that, 2,200 or so have accepted the jobs. We have done our best, and it is not possible to do anything more.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** May I know whether it is possible for the Government to evolve any new policy whereby, instead of discharging the persons and then trying to absorb them, they could re-divert the people from one department to another directly?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** It is for the different Ministries to decide as to whether any retrenchment is to be done or not. In this case, the Defence Ministry waited, I think, for a number of years and ultimately they decided to retrench these people because there was no work at all for them. But they did try to get as many people as possible absorbed. The Railways also have been able to absorb quite a large number of them.

As regards the reason for the refusal on the part of some of the people I am not quite certain about it, but the refusal is not due to the pay that was given to them. The reason was that they did not want to move from one place to another. Generally, they wanted to get some jobs locally or somewhere nearabout their homes. So, that was also one of the difficulties, namely, the workers did not want to move from one place to another.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether these workers who have been employed in the Railways are considered as newly employed, or whether their past services in the Defence installations would be taken into consideration for the continuance of their employment?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** I am not quite certain, but I think they will be considered as newly employed.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether the Minister is in a position to tell the House how the scales of pay now drawn by them compare to those they were drawing before retrenchment, on an average?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** I cannot say that. But the hon. Member may know that the workers themselves feel—and I also feel—that they are satisfied with the alternative jobs provided for them. Whether the pay is less or more is not their immediate concern.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know whether this move of the Ministry to give them alternative jobs is being continued or whether it has been dropped?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** It will be continued. If we can absorb more, we will certainly do so.

#### Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee

\*197. { **Shri †Krishnacharya Joshi:**  
**Shri K. S. Rao:**  
**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 166 on the 22nd February, 1956, and state:

(a) whether the Indian Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee has completed its work; and

(b) if so, whether it has submitted its Report?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):**

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know whether any interim report has been submitted?

**Shri Alagesan:** No, Sir. No interim report has been submitted, but it is expected that the final report of the Committee will be submitted shortly.

### Import of Sugar

\*199. **Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sugar already imported has been consumed; and

(b) if not, the balance in stock?

**The Deputy Minister of Food (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) and (b). Out of a total quantity of 13.18 lakh tons imported during the past three years, only about 8,000 tons are in stock at present.

I would like to add that out of the total of 8,000 tons, 7,400 tons have been sold and are being gradually lifted by the purchasers. Only 600 tons which represent sweepings and damages are lying in our godowns.

**Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** May I know whether the Government propose to import more sugar in view of the increase in the consumption of sugar in India?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** We have no idea of importing any more sugar.

**Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** May I know whether the Government have got any profit out of the stock that has been sold?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** About Rs. 8 crores.

**Shri Velayudhan:** The hon. Deputy Minister said about 600 tons of sugar are damaged. May I know how this damage takes place?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** It is not entirely damaged. It is called 'sweeping.' The damage occurs when the steamer comes from thousands of miles away; because of bad weather, water gets in and some sugar gets crystallised and becomes solid. We call that sugar as damaged.

गोमा और पाकिस्तान को चोरी-छिपे गेहूं भेजा जाना

\*२००. { श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह :  
डा० राम सुभग सिंह :  
श्री गिडबानी :  
श्री जेटालाल जोशी :  
श्री विभूति मिश्र :  
श्री व० व० पांडे :  
श्री कामत :  
श्री संगण्णा :  
श्री गार्डिलिगन गौड़ :

क्या साक्ष और कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार को पता लगा था कि बम्बई के गल्ले के कुछ बड़े-बड़े व्यापारी गोमा और पाकिस्तान को चोरी-छिपे गेहूं भेजते थे;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में जांच करने के लिये आदेश जारी किये थे; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका क्या परिणाम रहा ?

साक्ष उपमंत्री (श्री मो० बे० कृष्णप्पा)

(क) से (ग). लोक-सभा की टेबिल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है ।

### विबरण

जी, हां। रिपोर्टें मिली हैं कि कुछ व्यापारी चोरी-छिपे देस से बाहर घनाज भेजते रहे हैं। जांच द्वारा यह प्रतीत होता है कि चोरी-छिपे माल भेजने के विरुद्ध किये हुए उपायों के बावजूद, कुछ चोरी-छिपे माल जा रहा है लेकिन अपराधियों को कोर्ट से दण्ड दिलवाने के लिये गवाही पेश करना मुश्किल है ।

**Mr. Speaker:** Have all these hon. Members given their questions in Hindi?

**Shri Gidwani:** I have given in English.