

the claims. Full co-operation is being extended by the Railway Officers to the court for expeditious disposal of claims.

One of the claimants, Smt. Vidya Devi widow of late Shri Gorkhu Ram,

who had applied for interim relief, has been paid Rs. 15,000/- as interim compensation in respect of her husband killed in the accident; no compensation has yet been paid to other claimants.

#### ANNXURE

Sl. No.	Name	Date on which application was sent to the Railway Administration	Date of receipt in Railway's office	Name of applicant
1	Shri Kalmi Ram . . . . .	Not received in this office but filed in the court.	—	Shri Rattan Lal
2	Shri Dhayan Singh . . . . .	Nil	18-12-79	Smt. Resho Devi
3	Shri Amin Chand . . . . .	-12-79	2-01-80	Smt. Gayatri Devi
4	Shri Babu Ram . . . . .	20-03-80	5-04-80	Smt. Mohini Devi
5	Shri Gorkhu Ram . . . . .	5-04 80 18-05-79	31-05-79	Smt. Vidya Devi
6	Shri Karan Singh . . . . .	22-12-79	26-12-79	Smt. Rajinder Kumari

#### House keepers in Sucheta Kripalani Medical College and Hospital

6296. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether the House keepers in the Sucheta Kripalani Medical College and Hospital were previously entitled to free boarding and lodging facility;

(b) if so, whether this facility was later on withdrawn without any compensation by way of increase in their remunerations and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to restore this facility to the house keepers or to compensate them by way of increasing their emoluments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI

NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) to (c). Posts of House Keepers are provided for the Resident Doctors, Students and Nurses' Hostels of the Lady Harding Medical College and Smt. Sucheta Kripalani Hospital, New Delhi. These House Keepers were entitled only to the facility of rent-free accommodation in their respective hostels and not free boarding prior to the take-over of these institutions by the Government, with effect from 1st February, 1978. The facility of free accommodation continues to be provided to these House Keepers.

#### 5 Gangmen on Hunger Strike

6297. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 5 medically decategorised gangmen (CPC) under P.W.I.,

Hazaribagh Road along with their families including little children were on indefinite hunger strike before D.R.M./Dhanbad from 27-5-80 after several appeals and ultimate notice for providing them alternate jobs being futile:

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) total numbers of substitutes appointed in different Departments of Railway, Dhanbad Division, Eastern Railway till May 1980;

(d) details of medically decategorised gangmen (CPC) and their absorption in alternate jobs; and

(e) the reasons for not providing alternate jobs to these gangmen?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):** (a) Yes, but the hunger strike was called off on 3-6-1980.

(b), (d) and (e). On their becoming eligible for regular scale, the gangmen were sent for medical examination, but were declared medically unfit for Gangman's post. They were, however, found fit for categories with lower medical specifications. As no such posts were available at that time they were discharged. Out of a total of 87 involved, 80 have already been provided with alternate jobs and the other 7 will be absorbed as and when more vacancies become available.

(c) 322.

#### **Indian Seamen working on Foreign Vessels**

**6298. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian seamen working on foreign vessels are in a quandary because of the insistence by the International Transport Workers Federation that all sea-

men working on board "flag of convenience" vessels should be paid wages as per international rates;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that seamen recruited in India for foreign flag vessels join under terms and conditions; different from those applicable to seamen of other countries;

(c) if so, the main reasons for the same;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Indian seamen are getting the wages much below the international rates; and

(e) whether the Central Government have taken up this matter with the International Agency?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):**

(a) For the past sometime the International Transport Workers Federation has been insisting that wages to the crew on board flag of convenience vessels should be paid as per ITF wage rate.

(b) Indian seamen joining Indian, Foreign or flag of convenience vessels recruited through Director, Seamen's Employment Offices sign on Indian Articles of Agreement. The Agreement provides for payment of wages as determined by the National Maritime Board (India). This Board consisting of the representatives of the shipowners and the Indian seamen is the main negotiating body which lays down the wage rates and other service conditions for the seamen.

(c) Indian wage rate is determined taking into consideration the manning scales, the wage rate applicable to workers of comparable skill in other Indian industries and the socio-economic conditions in this country.

(d) It is true that Indian seamen get wages much below the ITF wage rates which are based on North European Wage Rate.