

(d) whether it is a fact that on Southern Railway many posts of WTS have not been filled up and cadre strength of WTS/IWT not maintained; and

(e) what are the reasons for not changing the designation of WTS as IWT and maintaining the strength on Southern Railway with separate seniority as per avenue chart contained in Board's orders?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Generally yes.

(b) No, WTS/Senior Wireless Operators who are in the same scale as IWT are also eligible.

(c) Post of WTS on Southern Railway have since been redesignated as IWT.

(d) The post of WTS/IWT is operated as Senior WOP as these posts are identical in scales of pay.

(e) Does not arise.

Wireless Operators at Madras

4448. SHRI MATILAL HASDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of wireless operators at Madras on the 15th November, 1969 while deploying them on Microwave Teleprinters and the total number of wireless Operators at Madras as on date;

(b) the total number of teleprinter circuits operated by the Wireless Operators at Madras on the 15th November, 1969 and the total number of circuits operated by them on date;

(c) whether Government are aware that the same number of links are operated by Wireless Operators at Madras since 15th November, 1969 till date with depleted strength due to several retirements;

(d) whether it is a fact that the COPS/MAS has agreed to take over the links from wireless operators as and when they retire due to shrinkage of cadre; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not taking over even a single link from 1969 till date despite several retirements at Madras?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 29 and 19 respectively.

(b) 7.

(c) and (d). Yes.

(e) Three teleprinter circuits have already been taken over by the COPS.

Class III and IV posts surrendered

4449. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of Class III and Class IV posts have been surrendered during the last three years for creation of the posts of Supervisors and Officers on Indian Railways;

(b) if so the number of Class III and Class IV posts surrendered and the posts of Supervisors and Officers created and operated during the last three years showing the figures Division-wise on Indian Railways; and

(c) the results and benefits derived out of this scheme of matching surrender?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) Better supervision and overall efficiency.