Sanskrit studies in schools and colleges

2287. SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that Sanskrit studies in schools and colleges is, of late, getting a secondary importance; and
- (b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to give Sanskrit its due place in education?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). Under the Three Language Formula teaching of Sanskrit is not compulsory because of its being a classical language. However, it is appreciated that knowledge of Sanskrit will help students to gain access to a wealth of knowledge contained in writings in Sanskrit covering a wide field. Accordingly, in the larger context of gaining knowledge, it has been recommended that States should provide for the teaching of Sanskrit language right from the school stage, leaving it open to students desirous of learning the language to avail themselves of the opportunity.

This Ministry has been encouraging study of Sanskrit as a language and has been giving assistance to the State Governments by instituting scholarships even in the pre-matric stage. For post-matric stage, Sanskrit scholarships are by the Central Government through the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan. Governments have also been assisted Sanskrit teachers in secondary provide schools. The National Council of Educational Research and Traning has bringing out textbooks in Sanskrit with a view to making the study of Sanskrit more interesting and effective. University Grantss Commission provides assistance to universities and colleges for the promotion of study of Sanskrit under various program-The Commission has also constitumes.

ted a panel on classical languages which inter-alia deals with the problem of teaching and research in the languages concerned including Sanskrit. The panel has set up a sub-committee for preparing a draft on restructuring of courses in Sanskrit.

Setting up of separate railway division at Bhopal

2288. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up a separate Railway Division at Bhopal; and
- (b) if so, the time by which it will be set up?

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

(b) Land cleared of encroachments and released by its present allotees is still to be handed over to the Railways by the State Government. The progress of setting up and commissioning of the Divisional headquarters also depends on the availability of resources which are rather scarce at present.

Survey of Tanakpur Ghat-Bageshwar rail line

2289. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has issued orders to start survey of Tanakpur Ghat-Bageshwar railway line; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No.

(b) Due to severe constraint of resources it will not be possible to undertake the 131

construction of this project at present. Any survey carried out now, will be out-dated by the time, the construction of this project is taken up for consideration at a future distant date.

अखिल भारतीय शिक्षा सेवा

2290. श्री बृद्ध चन्द्र जैनः क्या शिक्षा और संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करणे कि:

- (क) देश में अखिल भारतीय शिक्षा संजा का गठन करने के बारे में शिक्षा आयोगों की सिफारिशें क्या हैं;
- (क्ष) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों के इस बार में विचारों का पता लगाया है ; और
- (ग) यदि हां, तो उनका मत क्या है और प्रस्ताव के संबंध में उनकी प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

शिक्षा और संस्कृति तथा समाज कल्याण मंत्रालयों में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती शीला कौल): (क) शिक्षा आयोग (1964-66) ने अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ भारतीय शिक्षा सेवा के गठन की सिफारिश की है।

(स) और (ग). वर्ष 1965-68 के दाँरान भारतीय शिक्षा सेवा के गठन के प्रस्ताव अलग से पहले ही भारत सरकार के विचाराधीन थे। जबिक कुछ राज्य सरकार भारतीय शिक्षा सेवा के गठन के प्रस्ताव के पक्ष में थी, किन्तु कई अन्य राज्यों ने इस बार में कोई विचार व्यक्त नहीं किया।

Protest against extension of Asst. Station Masters/Station Masters

2291. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Railway Board permitted the Zonal Railways to extend where necessary services of Assistant Station Masters and Station Master beyond their retiring age of 58 either upto 60 or until the candidates duly selected to fill the vacancies are available which ever is earlier; and

(b) if so, whether there is any protest from the railway employees against this?

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

(b) One of the recognised Labour Federations on the Railways has protested against this. This has been examined and replied to.

Demands of Timber Merchants Association, Siliguri

2292. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a meeting as per directives of the Supreme Court was called by the Chairman, Railway Board, to meet the representatives of Timber Merchants Association, Siliguri to sort out various problems which are subject matters of their writ petitions on 27th May, 1982;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the representatives of Timber Merchants' Association discussed the various problems with Director, Freight Movement and Chief Commercial Superintendent, North Frontier Railway on 27 May, 1982 but they were not allowed to see the Chairman till 7 P.M. on 29 May, 1982; and
- (c) whether the decisions taken in the meetings on 22 February, 1982 and also on 27 and 29 May have been effectively implemented by now?

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

(b) After preliminary discussion between the representatives of the Timber Merchants' Association, Siliguri and the Director, Freight Movement, Railway Board, on 27th and 28th May, 1982, a meeting was held with the Chairman, Railway Board on 29-5-82.