

(b) whether approval of the Finance Ministry has been obtained;

(c) whether the upgrading of gazetted staff has since been completed; and

(d) if so, the time limit for issuing the order for upgrading?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH):** (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Out of 968 posts approved by the Cabinet for upgradation, orders for 918 have so far been issued.

(d) An upgradation scheme for non-gazetted staff has been drawn up and is under the active consideration of Government. It is, however, not feasible to indicate at this stage when the scheme will be finally approved by Government.

**Amounts due to SMs/ASMs for working as Guards**

8062. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1117 on the 25th February, 1975 regarding acting allowance to Stations Masters/Assistant Station Masters and state:

(a) whether Station Master, Sabzi Mandi grade Rs. 455—700, ASM, Delhi grade Rs. 425—640 and other SMs/ASMs grade Rs. 425—640 in Delhi Division were ordered to work trains in emergencies when Guards are not available;

(b) whether ASM grade Rs. 330—560 are entitled to acting allowance of Rs. 8/40 per day for working as Guards; and

(c) if so, the amount that the SMs/ASMs grade Rs. 425—640 and Rs. 455—700 are entitled to for working as Guards?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH):** (a) During the previous six months one S.M. grade Rs. 455-700 (RS) and two ASMs grade Rs. 425-640 (RS) Sabzi Mandi, were utilised to work as Guards grade 'C'. A further scrutiny is being conducted in respect of Sabzi Mandi as well as Delhi Division's stations, to assess occurrence of cases of this type.

(b) Yes.

(c) Since it has not been provided in the rules to utilise higher grade SMs/ASMs as guards grade 'C' no daily rates have been laid down for them. However, in the cases referred to in part (a) above, payment of acting allowance at Rs. 8/40 per diem had been made.

**Planning Commission to provide Funds to Railways for Wagon Procurement**

8063. **SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has decided to provide necessary funds to enable the Railways to place orders for wagons during the current and as well as the next fiscal years; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH):** (a) and (b). The funds allocated by the Planning Commission for the Railways' Annual Plan 1975-76 would enable the Railways to procure about 6,000 wagons (in terms of 4-wheelers) out of which 5,000 will be from trade and 1,000 from Railway Workshops. The number of wagons to be procured during the coming years will depend upon the availability of additional annally?