

Wage Board for Railwaymen

320. **Shri S. M. Banerjee;**
Shri S. C. Samanta;
Shri Madhu Limaye;
Shri Indrajit Gupta;
Shri J. M. Biswas:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demands of the Railwaymen, for the appointment of a Wage Board and for the provision of cheap grain shops have been put forward once again by the Railwaymen's Federation for the consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government and the reasons for not conceding these demands?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes; a delegation from the All India Railwaymen's Federation met the Prime Minister on 14-4-66 and presented a memorandum which inter alia contained a demand for the setting up of a separate Wage Board for Railwaymen and provision of subsidised grain shops in line of what existed prior to 1949. Also there has been demand from the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen.

(b) As regards the setting up of a separate Wage Board, Government's policy was clarified in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 220 replied on 25-2-66, namely, that pay scales of Railway employees are based on recommendations of successive Pay Commissions which went into the pay structure and conditions of service of Central Government servants as a whole. The Government do not consider it necessary to set up a separate Wage Board for Railwaymen.

By Cheap Grain shops, presumably the reference is to Subsidised Grainshops. Subsidised Grainshops, which were introduced during the last War, came to adverse criticism by the Parliament and elsewhere on account of corruption that crept into these shops and in view of the past experience it is not proposed to reintroduce

these subsidised grainshops on Railways.

Canteen Employees of Northern Railway stationed at Lucknow

321. **Shri S. M. Banerjee;**
Shri S. C. Samanta;
Shri Madhu Limaye;
Shri Indrajit Gupta;
Shri J. M. Biswas:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Canteen employees of the Northern Railway stationed at Lucknow have been arrested without assigning any reason;

(b) whether they have been deprived of the minimum facilities for their defence; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

New process of Cement Manufacture

322. **Shri P. K. Deo;**
Shri G. C. Naik;
Shri K. P. Singh Deo;
Shri A. Dipa:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of the new process of cement manufacture successfully designed by the Regional Research Laboratory at Jorhat;

(b) how this new Shaft Kiln Process differs from the existing process; and

(c) the main advantage of this new process over the existing one?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) to (c). The Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat (Assam) has designed and set up a vertical shaft kiln plant for producing cement