

(f). Information is being collected by the Northern Railway from the subordinate offices. The information when received from the Railway will be placed on the Table of the House.

OVERTIME TO RAILWAY RUNNING STAFF

3985. SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of the Running Staff on the Railways is time-oriented;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the hours of duty of such staff are fixed per day;

(c) if so, whether they get overtime wages if they work for more than fixed hours on any particular day; and

(d) whether Government propose to do away with the payment of overtime by increasing the staff which will also help in reducing unemployment ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Running staff work according to duty links/schedules prepared keeping in view the varying conditions of train working, the provisions of the Hours of Employment Regulations etc.

(b) No.

(c) The running staff are paid overtime when they work beyond the prescribed hours in a half-monthly period.

(d) Necessary steps have been taken to reduce the incidence of overtime payment to running staff to the extent possible.

RAILWAY BRAKESMEN

3986. SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a class of Railway employees called as the Brakesmen;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no age of superannuation for them; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to revise their policy and introduce an age of retirement for these Brakesmen in view of the growing unemployment in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). No, except in the case of those Brakesmen on the Central Railway who were in permanent service on 31-7-1940 on the former G.I.P. Railway and have retained Class IV status.

NORTHERN RAILWAY SIGNAL WORKSHOPS, GHAZIABAD

3987. SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the manufacturing units of the Northern Railway Signal Workshops at Ghaziabad are proposed to be closed down and the work relating thereto to be given on contract to private companies; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) There is no proposal for closing down the Northern Railway Signal Workshop at Ghaziabad.

(b) Does not arise.

BROAD-GAUGE LINE FROM VARANASI TO GORAKHPUR

3988. SHRI VISHWA NATH PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to construct a broad-gauge railway line from Varanasi to Gorakhpur Railway Station via Bhatni Junction;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the total amount of expenditure on its construction ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (c). The North Eastern Railway is pre-