

Unstarred Question No. 176 on the 18th February, 1969 and state :

(a) whether the proposals for divisionalisation of the North Eastern Railway have since been finalised ; and

(b) if so, details thereof with reasons and justification therefor.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Yes.

(b) The North Eastern Railway is to be organised into four divisions with headquarters at Izatnagar, Lucknow, Varanasi and Samastipur. The divisional system of working is being introduced to secure the advantages of a greater delegation of powers and better coordination of work than is possible under the district system. The headquarters of the divisions have been chosen on the basis of their suitability for administrative and operational control.

Railway mixed Higher Secondary School at Chakradharpur

5610. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any joint appeal has been received by the authorities concerned regarding the step-motherly treatment meted out to Oriya students in imparting education and in conducting examination in the Railway Mixed Higher Secondary Schools at Chakradharpur in Bihar;

(b) if so, the step taken to supply the question papers to Oriya students in their mother tongue; and

(c) the reasons for this discrimination ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (Dr. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Joint appeals were received from some Oriya employees requesting for teaching Oriya students in classes VI and VII of the Railway Mixed Higher Secondary School, Chakradharpur, through their mother tongue i.e. Oriya, as also supplying of question papers on non-language subject to them in the said language.

(b) and (c). As the medium of instru-

tion in the above mentioned school is Hindi, it has not been possible to arrange for setting of question papers on non-language subjects in Oriya Language owing to practical difficulties.

Director-General of Backward Classes Welfare

5611. SHRI P.R. THAKUR :
SHRI SURAJ BHAN :

Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

whether it is a fact that while the present Director-General of Backward Classes Welfare was the Member-Secretary of the Committee on Untouchability for some time, he himself directed in writing the Committee Office to collect the necessary information regarding the representation of Scheduled Castes in 'Services' from the different State Governments as well as the various Central Government Departments for purposes of the Committee's Report;

(b) if so, whether this matter was ever re-examined by him in the light of the Committee's terms of reference and brought to the notice of the Minister for appropriate advice to the Committee even after his dissociation from the Committee and when he actually took full charge of the Department; and

(c) if not, the basis on which objections were raised only recently against the inclusion of 'Services' matter as part of the Committee's Report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Committee asked for an extension of its terms of reference only on the 23 January—two days before its tenure was due to expire so as to include representation in Government services 'Services' is a subject that comes within the purview of the Ministry of Home Affairs. That Ministry appointed a Working Group (the Yardi Group) to go into this matter in April, 1967 and the