

Assistant Commercial Officers did it, in addition to claims settlement work. On the old M. and S. M. Railway, there was an officer in charge of the Watch and Ward Department and claims prevention work.

(c) As mentioned in answer to part (b) certain Railways did not have any separate claims prevention organization. Where such an organization existed, it was virtually a part of the claims settlement organization. It would, therefore, be difficult to prepare a separate account for this organization. Besides, some of the relevant records would no longer be available. It is regretted, therefore, that the average amounts spent prior to 1955 cannot now be compiled.

As for the average amount now being spent on claims prevention, the information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) Figures of claims registered and the amount of compensation paid on the entire railway system in 1953-54 and 1954-55 and in 1966-67 and 1967-68 are shown below :—

| | Number of claims registered | Amount of compensa- paid (Rs.) |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1953-54 | 3,73,758 | 2,86,69,695 |
| 1954-55 | 3,78,394 | 2,68,00,489 |
| 1966-67 | 6,50,551 | 6,10,02,694 |
| 1967-68 | 7,39,048 | 7,99,74,438 |

It may be explained that the figures for 1953-54 and 1954-55 are not directly comparable with the figures for 1966-67 and 1967-68 because conditions have been changing. To mention only a few factors, the traffic carried by the Railways has been steadily going up, prices have been rising, the Railways have assumed greater liability and the public are more conscious of their rights under the law.

**Letters sent to Government by
Members of Parliament**

5647. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board has directed the Zonal General Managers of Indian Railways not to take notice of letters sent by Members of Parliament ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) :** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Government Lady Noyce School for
Deaf and Dumb, New Delhi**

5648. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Boarding Servants attached to the Government Lady Noyce School for Deaf and Dumb, New Delhi are not paid their emolument for the period of summer vacations ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to regularise the services of Boarding Servants who have put in more than five years of service and are still temporary ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DE-
PARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE
(DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA) :**
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) They are paid from contingencies only.

(c) Two posts of Boarding Servants have been created and steps are being taken by the Delhi Administration to fill them. After regular appointments are made, the employees will receive pay and allowances like other employees.

**Low Paid Employees of Government Lady
Noyce School for Deaf and Dumb,
New Delhi**

5649. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the low-paid employees of the Government Lady Noyce School for Deaf and Dumb, New Delhi are made to work in both the shift

whereas different teachers work in both the shifts ; and

(b) if so, why this discrimination and what steps are proposed to be taken to provide the low-paid employees with relief ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA) : (a) and (b). Only Sweepers and Frash in the school work in both shifts ; but they are expected to work only for 8 hours a day.

Winter Uniforms of Class IV Employee of Social Welfare Department

5650. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased state :

(a) whether it is a fact that winter uniforms to the Class IV employees in the Department of Social Welfare were supplied only in the month of March, when the winter was over ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the uniforms and shoes supplied to Class IV employees did not fit the employees for whom they were intended ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

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

(c) Does not arise.

Railway Goods Capacity

5651. SHRI RANJIT SINGH
SHRI D. C. SHARMA
SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN
SHRI BENI SHANKER
SHARMA
SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the goods Capacity of Railways outstrips the demand ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps proposed to make fuller utilization of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) to (c). The materialisation of traffic is not uniform throughout the year. While demand for transport increases during the busy season which extends from November to April, it drops during the rest of the year. In consequence, there is under-utilisation of transport capacity during the slack months and heavy pressure during the peak months. To correct this imbalance, the Railways are trying to persuade the trading public to increase loading during the slack months, atleast in respect of non-damageable goods to absorb the excess capacity. Steps are also taken to attract more traffic. The Marketing and Sales Organisation have been set up on the Zonal Railways with this end in view.

हरिजनों आदिवासियों के लिए छात्रवृत्ति की राशि में वृद्धि

5652. श्री राम सिंह आयरवाल : क्या बिधि तथा समाज कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जब से सरकार ने हरिजन आदिवासियों को छात्रवृत्तियां देना आरम्भ किया है तब से छात्रवृत्तियां की घनराशि में कोई वृद्धि नहीं की गई है जिसके कारण उच्च अध्ययन करने वाले छात्रों को बड़ी कठिनाई हो रही है ।

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार लगातार बढ़ रहे मूल्य सूचकांक के अनुसार छात्रवृत्तियों की घनराशि बढ़ाने का है ;

(ग) यदि हां तो किस सीमा तक ; और

(घ) क्या उनके लिए संयुक्त छात्रावास खोलने का विचार है ?