

(ख) यदि हां, तो सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्णयों के बावजूद भी उक्त कर्मचारियों को बहाल न करने के क्या कारण हैं ?

विधि तथा समाज कल्याण और रेल मंत्री (श्री गोविन्द मैनन) : (क) कानपुर के भूत-पूर्व टिकट बाबू, श्री अब्दुल अलीम खां, का अभ्यावेदन भेजते हुए दो संसद सदस्यों ने अनुरोध किया था कि सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के 5 दिसम्बर, 1963 के निर्णय के आधार पर श्री अब्दुल अलीम खां को बहाल कर दिया जाये। सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के बाद के किसी निर्णय का उल्लेख न तो संसद सदस्यों के पत्रों में है और न स्वयं श्री अब्दुल अलीम खां के अभ्यावेदन में।

(ख) सर्वोच्च न्यायालय का 5 दिसम्बर, 1963 का निर्णय केवल उन स्थायी रेल कर्मचारियों के मामले में लागू होता है, जिन्हें अनुशासन और अपील नियमों में निर्धारित कार्यविधि का पालन किये बिना, नौकरी से हटा दिया गया था। श्री अब्दुल अलीम खां को, 22 दिसम्बर, 1949 से, तत्कालीन अनुशासन और अपील नियमों में निर्धारित कार्यविधि का पालन करते हुए, नौकरी से हटाया गया था; अतः उन्हें सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के 5 दिसम्बर, 1963 के निर्णय के आधार पर बहाल करने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

#### SECURITY DEPOSIT BY COMMERCIAL CLERKS (SOUTHERN RAILWAY)

5068. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Southern Railway authorities are harassing the Commercial Clerks who have put in 10 or more years of service, by asking them to deposit a security of Rs. 300/-;

(b) whether Government have received any representations from the All India Railway Commercial Clerks' Association in this respect, and if so, the action taken on it; and

(c) whether Government will issue necessary instructions to the concerned offices not to insist on security deposit from the employees who have put in 10 years of service or more, and who have a confirmed status in the Railway, since they have sufficient balance in their Provident Fund account which is more than the security amount?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (a) Commercial clerks who were not permanent on 4-7-1949 and those appointed after that date are required to furnish a security deposit of Rs. 300/-. Commercial clerks who are required to furnish security deposit and have not done so have been asked by the Southern Railway Administration to do so. This does not constitute harassment.

(b) Yes, representations from the Association were received by the Southern Railway, but no action was taken as this is not a recognised Union.

(c) The general principle of obtaining security deposit from staff entrusted with cash or stores cannot be relaxed, but to minimise any difficulty the employees may feel in doing so, the railways allow staff to deposit the security in easy instalments. The rules also permit the security to be given in the form of Government Savings Certificates or a Fidelity Guarantee Insurance Policy in lieu of cash. The employees' own contribution to the Provident Fund can in no circumstances be forfeited to Government. In the case of pensionable staff, there is no Government contribution to the Provident Fund and even in the case of non-pensionable staff, there are certain restrictions on the appropriation of the Government contribution to the Provident Fund towards the risks against which the security deposit is intended to provide a cover. It is, therefore, not possible for the Provident Fund accumulations of employees to be regarded as replacing the security deposit.

#### PROMOTION OF RAILWAY COMMERCIAL CLERKS

5069. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Commercial Clerks who have put in twenty years of service are still in the initial grade of Rs. 110-200, aspiring to get the next higher grade of Rs. 150-240; and

(b) whether it will not affect the morale and efficiency of an employee, if a major portion of his total service has to be spent in the initial grade itself, and if he gets stagnated at the maximum of the initial grade, his chances of promotion being remote?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (a) Yes, there are some.

(b) The question of giving some relief to Class III Staff including Commercial Clerks who have been at the maximum of their pay scales for some time is under consideration.

#### REVISION OF GRADES OF COMMERCIAL OF CLERKS

5070. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any special reason for not revising the grades of the Commercial Clerks alone, when the other categories like Guards, Assistant Station Masters and Travelling Ticket Examiners who were getting equal pay like them, got it revised by executive orders; and

(b) whether Government will consider to merge at least the first and second grades prevailing for the Commercial Clerks (as has been done in the case of P W T clerks) (Rs. 110-200 and Rs. 150-240 merged into one scale Rs. 110-240) so that there will not be stagnation at Rs. 200/-, even if they do not get any promotion during the whole of their service as is the case at present?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (a) and (b) It is not correct that the scales of pay of Commercial Clerks alone have not been revised. There has been no revision in most of the categories of Railway employees including Guards and Travelling Ticket Examiners after allotment of authorised scales of pay on the basis of Second Pay Commission's recommendation. The scales

of pay of Assistant Station Masters/ Stations Masters were revised with effect from 1-4-1964 in view of the increased responsibilities consequent upon the increase in the tempo of traffic movements. At this stage, it is not possible to consider the case of Commercial Clerks in isolation for a revision of scales, particularly as the Government have announced their decision to appoint a Pay Commission.

#### LOSSES INCURRED IN SWITCHGEAR UNIT OF BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS LIMITED, HYDERABAD

5071. SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that heavy losses are being incurred in the Switch Gear of Unit of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited at Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the extent of the loss incurred ever since this has been set up with foreign collaboration;

(c) the total capital invested and the extent of foreign exchange involved in it;

(d) whether a detailed Project Report for setting up this unit was drawn up and that large scale trading activities importing components at high cost and selling them at a low price in India—are being indulged; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that the various Electricity Boards in India were obtaining complete imported Air-Brakers from the collaborating firms at cheaper rates?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b). The Switchgear Unit Hyderabad of Bharat Electricals Ltd. has incurred losses as given below in the first three years of initial production, which commenced from October, 1966 :

1966-67	.. Rs. 16.57 lakhs
1967-68	.. Rs. 32.05 lakhs
1968-69	.. Rs. 49.64 lakhs.

(c) Capital expenditure upto 31st March, 1969 on this Unit amounted to Rs. 159.8 lakhs, the foreign exchange content being Rs. 40.78 lakhs.