

about it, and then they replied that in acceptance to your demand, Avadh-Assam Express has been given a stoppage at Ekma. I wanted something else and they give me something else. It means that the officers do not study the suggestions thoroughly—once, I wanted to have some information on telephone from the Personnel officer of Northern Railway about the vacancies of class 3 posts for which Allahabad service Board had put up advertisement and an examination was also conducted for it. After the examination, a panel was formed, from which several persons were given appointment letters. But the rest of them were not given appointment letters. When I asked why those people were not given appointment letters, I was told that I would get the reply within 7, 8 days. Later, the officer asked me to give it in writing as he did not remember what it was about. I wrote to him thrice but there was no reply. This has been going on for the last one and half or two years. Whenever a letter is written to a Minister, he promptly sends the reply, but the Chief Personnel Officer does not send a reply. It is his duty to observe simple rules of courtesy. If zonal railway officers behave like this, how will the railways function?

With these words, I conclude and hope that the hon. Minister will pay attention to my points.

17.10 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Sir, as the House is aware, the Report of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre State relations is scheduled to be discussed on Thursday, the 9th March, 1989, as recommended by the Business Advisory Committee and agreed to by the House.

In this connection, I have consulted the Leaders of various parties/groups who have agreed that the discussion on the Sarkaria Commission's Report may be taken up on Tuesday the 28th March instead of Thursday the 9th March, 1989. It was further agreed that the Minister of Railways would reply to the debate on Railway Budget on Friday, the 10th March, 1989, after disposal of Questions and the general discussion on General Budget would begin on Monday, the 13th March, 1989.

I hope the House would agree to this proposal.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the House agrees to it.

HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shiv Prasad Sahu.

17.12 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1989-90- GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU (Ranchi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of State for Railways, Shri Madhavrao Scindia for presenting a grand Budget. He has laid emphasis on modernisation of Railways, especially electrification, replacement of steam engines with diesel engines etc. which indeed, is a commendable step. We have earned fame in this field even in foreign countries. We have been able to get more contracts for laying railway lines in African countries and in the Middle East which proves that they are recognising our technology and our capability in the field of railways. Not only this, the sportsmen and sports- women working in the railways have also earned glory for their country and at least three of them have held the flag of the