

**Work Charged Employees in
Railways**

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*248. SHRI ANIL BASU :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have
recently decided to reduce the number
of work-charged staff drastically ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI ANIL BASU : On 4.7.85
reports were published in Anand Bazaar
Patrika leading Bengali daily—that
Shri G. Venkataraman, Financial
Commissioner of Railway Board has
issued a circular dated 13th of June,
asking different railway divisions to
reduce the work charged staff to the
extent of fifty to sixty per cent. May
I know whether it is a fact that such a
circular was issued and what are the
details of the said circular ? May I
know whether it is a fact that the
General Managers of zonal railways
were asked to consult the respective
financial advisers in connection with
the future recruitment and what are
the reasons for the same ?

SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA :
Our attempt is to see that Railways run
more efficiently and also the construc-
tion works are undertaken in a more
efficient manner. He referred to the
Financial Commissioner. The Financial
Commissioner has addressed a demi-
official letter to the General Managers
in June, 1985 ; this is just to alert the
General Managers to review the
strength of workcharged staff. There
is no question of drastically reducing

it. No such directive has been given.
What was indicated in the Financial
Commissioner's letter was his personal
opinion. It was just to alert the Gen-
eral Managers as such. And, as far as
consultation with FA and CAO is con-
cerned, it is just a normal procedure.
The attention of the General Managers
was drawn to the fact that they should
implement these things in consultation
with the FA and CAO. This is
not something unusual ; this is quite a
normal thing.

SHRI ANIL BASU : The Minister
replied in part (b) 'Does not arise'.
Now he has explained that there are
financial constraints. He stated that
what was issued was a demi-official
letter and it was personal opinion of
Financial Commissioner and not the
opinion of the Railway Board and the
Government. It reveals that although
drastic reduction of work-charged staff
may not occur, yet, there is a chance
of partial reduction of work-charged
staff, as published in the newspapers.

Now, the Minister should give
clear assurance that no work-charged
staff will be retrenched and they will
take all the necessary action to see
that no retrenchment in respect of
work-charged staff is going to occur.

In the year 1980...

MR. SPEAKER : That is all
right.

SHRI ANIL BASU : This is the
second Supplementary, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, this is
the second Supplementary, no third
Supplementary.

SHRI ANIL BASU : I am putting
the second Supplementary, Sir, (*Interup-
tion*). In the year 1980 the Govern-
ment took the decision of decasualisation
and absorption of all casual workers in
the Railways. Till today a large num-
ber of casual workers numbering more

than 2 lakhs are yet to be absorbed in the Railways. When is the Government going to absorb all of them and what is the scheduled programme of absorption?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Sir, in answer to the third Supplementary of the Hon. Member, I would like to reiterate that the employment of work-charged staff will continue to be totally need-based. As far as the casual labour is concerned, this is a much wider question. This particular question only pertains to work-charged staff. However, casual labour too is being absorbed on a seniority basis and I think if I am not mistaken if I am mistaken I stand to be corrected—it is about 20,000 to 30,000 a year or so.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, I would like to know whether it is not a fact that several thousand persons were recruited as voluntary ticket checking staff...

MR. SPEAKER : That is a long past history. It has been answered so many times.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : No, it has not been answered, Sir. I have not even come to my question.

My question is whether it is not a fact that several thousand persons were recruited as voluntary ticket checking staff violating all norms by the former Railway Minister. Further, I would like to know whether it is also a fact that services of some of them have been terminated or whether their services have been confirmed or they are absorbed as a regular staff in the Railways.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : On the one hand you want them to be regularised and on the other you want to chuck them out.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 249—Dr. Phulrenu Guha.

Short Stay Homes for Women

*249. **SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA :** Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) how many short stay homes are run with the grant-in-aid of the Ministry and where are they situated ;

(b) how many girls/women are in those homes ;

(c) how many girls/women are rehabilitated by now ;

(d) what is the amount sanctioned for each home as well as per head ; and

(e) Government's proposal to sanction short stay homes during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) Twenty-one short stay homes are running with grant-in-aid from this Ministry. They are situated at Ahmedabad, Bombay, Dehradun (Kalsi), Delhi Cuttack, Gwalior, Hyderabad, Hooghly, Imphal, Jalandhar, Madurai, Panaji, Patna, Trivandrum, Malegaon (Nasik), Nagpur, Faridabad, Karnal, Lucknow, Sitapur and Kanpur.

(b) About seven hundred women and girls.

(c) During the last five years, about 1511 women/girls have been rehabilitated.

(d) Rs. 98,000 is sanctioned for each Home in the first year and Rs. 83,000 in each subsequent year. Rs. 75 per month is the amount sanctioned for maintenance per inmate.