

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Prof. Humayun Kabir): (a) The House is aware that the Expedition was beaten back by exceptionally bad weather after the summit party had reached a height of 28,600 ft. i.e. only about 400 ft. short of the peak.

(b) Necessary information will be available only on return of the party.

Pay Scales of Teachers of Primary Schools.

2868. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) Whether accurate statistics are available with regard to salary scales of teachers in primary schools, Government, Government-aided and private, in the different States and Union territories; and

(b) If so, whether a detailed statement will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b) Attention is invited to the reply to part (b) of unstarred question No. 2601 asked by Shri S. B. Patil in the Lok Sabha on 5-6-1962.

Central Secretariat Service

2869. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the total number of Assistants' vacancies as on 1st May, 1962 so far as the Central Secretariat Service (R&R) Scheme is concerned?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): About 115 posts of Assistants were reported to be vacant as on the 1st May 1962 in the Ministries' Offices participating in the C.S.S. (R&R) Scheme. Out of this number, it has been decided to fill 50 vacancies for the time being by temporary promotion from the grade of Upper Division Clerks.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO U.S.Q. No. 1593 DATED 18TH MAY, 1962

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The

correct position with regard to part (b) of Unstarred Question No. 1593 is that a memorandum was received on 13th May, 1962, from the Central Tenants Association proposing certain amendments to the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1958.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED DISLOCATION IN UNLOADING OPERATIONS AT SALT COTAURS RAILWAY GOODS SCHED.

Shri Umanath Pudukkottai: Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Railways to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The reported dislocation in unloading operations at Salt Cotaurs Railway Goods Shed, Madras."

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): Sir, due to heavy congestion and accumulation of the goods unloaded in the mineral siding at Salt Cotaurs during the later part of May, 1962, inward wagons loaded with fire-wood, charcoal, timber, etc., were getting severely detained. On account of this emergent situation and with a view to expediting removal of unloaded consignments, the Southern Railway decided to temporarily curtail the free time with effect from 1-6-1962 in respect of traffic dealt with at the mineral siding after giving due publicity in all local papers.

Prior to 1-6-1962, consignments of fire-wood, charcoal, timber, etc., unloaded in the mineral siding were permitted to be removed without incurring wharfage on the next day upto the closing hours. With effect

from 1-6-1962, in respect of consignments of fire-wood, charcoal, timber, etc., unloaded up to 15 hours, the free time for removal has been allowed up to 22 hours of the same day while for those unloaded after 15 hours the free time for removal has been allowed up to 12 hours of the next day. No reduction was, however, made in the free time of five hours which is allowed for unloading.

Instead of giving a fair trial to this arrangement some of the merchants refused to unload their consignments on 3-6-1962. As attempt to persuade these merchants to work to the new arrangement had failed, arrangements were made by the Railway to release the wagons. After further discussion on 6-6-1962 the trade agreed to co-operate and immediately commenced not only unloading of the wagons but also the removal of the consignments. The curtailed free time will continue for a week at present after which the position will be reviewed. The work of unloading and clearance from the mineral siding is now quite normal.

On 5-6-1962 the labour of the merchants working in the general goods shed went on a token strike for a few hours only after which they resumed the work. The position is quite normal there.

Shri Umanath: Is it a fact that the railway authorities have now agreed to observe the unloading for a week and fix the average time taken during the observation period as free wharfage time; if so, has any date been fixed to settle this time?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: As I said, it will be a trial for a week. The whole question arose because of shortage of space in the Salt Cotours. It has a holding capacity for only 70 wagons, and because unloading of these consignments of charcoal, timber etc., takes a long time the wagon turn-round is affected. We are

now thinking of having some other godown elsewhere for these materials.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Hem Barua—

Shri Umanath: May I put one more question?

Mr. Speaker: There is a second one—Shri Hem Barua.

INVITATION TO PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF
 CHINA TO PROPOSED ANTI-NUCLEAR
 BOMB CONVENTION AT DELHI

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Sir, under rule 197, I call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The invitation accorded to People's Republic of China to send delegates to the proposed Anti-nuclear bomb Convention at Delhi.”

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, I find after enquiry that an invitation has been sent on behalf of the Gandhi Peace Foundation not to the people of the Republic of China but to a gentleman Mr. Ko-Mu Jo. The Gandhi Peace Foundation is a non-official private organisation not connected with Government, except that some government people are also members of it. They decided to hold an Anti-Nuclear Arms Convention in the middle of this month and they appointed a sub-committee to send invitations. It is a limited convention. I think it is limited to one hundred persons from India, and, maybe, about 15 or 20 persons might come from abroad. They have appointed a sub-committee to make a list of persons to be invited and, I presume, that the name of this gentleman, Mr. Ko-mu Ju was included in the list of people to be invited by that sub-committee. That is all I know of. I heard of this very lately and