

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, January 27, 1976/Magha
7, 1897 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Measures taken to recoup shortfall of SC/ST in Class I to IV

*266 SHRI S M SIDDAYYA Will
the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased
to state

(a) measures taken by his Ministry
to make up the deficiency in the rep-
resentation of the Scheduled Castes
and Scheduled Tribes in Class I to
IV posts, and

(b) how far the special powers
delegated to the General Managers of
the Zonal Railways have been exer-
cised to wipe out the deficiency in
the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
BUTA SINGH) (a) and (b) A state-
ment is laid on the Table of the Sabha

Statement

On Railways, recruitment to Class
I services is made through the Union
Public Service Commission

2 There is generally no direct
recruitment to Class II services,
vacancies in Class II being filled by
promotion of suitable Class III staff
However, recruitment to Class II posts
in the Medical Department and in
minor cadres, viz (i) Assistant
Chemists and Metallurgists, (ii) Assis-

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tant Cashiers and Pay Masters, and
(iii) Assistant Superintendents Print-
ing and Stationery is made through
the Union Public Service Commission,
a certain proportion of Class II posts
in the Railway Board Secretariat
service are also filled by direct recruit-
ment through the Union Public Service
Commission

3 So far as Class III posts are con-
cerned recruitment is generally made
by the Railway Service Commis-
sions In the case of shortfalls in
recruitment of Scheduled Caste/Sche-
duled Tribes candidates the General
Managers are authorised to resort to
direct recruitment

4 Recruitment against Class IV
posts is made by Railway Administra-
tions

5 The following measures are in
force on the Railways to ensure that
there is no avoidable shortfall in the
intake of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled
Tribe candidates

(a) Availability of reserved
vacancies in Class III is
given the widest possible
publicity

(b) No minimum qualifying marks
are prescribed for Scheduled
Caste and Scheduled Tribe
candidates appearing for
interviews in connection with
recruitment

(c) When Railway Service Com-
missions are not in a position
to supply an adequate number
of Scheduled Castes and Sche-
duled Tribes, General Mana-
gers are allowed to recruit
Scheduled Caste/Scheduled
Tribe candidates from the
open market

- (d) Appointment to Class IV posts is normally made by screening casual labourers/substitutes already working on the Railways. When adequate number of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates are not available through this process to fill reserved vacancies, recruitment from the open market is resorted to.
- (e) If Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates do not become available to fill the quota in non technical and quasi technical Class II and Class IV cadres recruitment to which is made otherwise than through a written examination the best amongst the failures are appointed provided they have the minimum prescribed educational/technical qualifications.
- (f) In respect of posts filled by promotion where the safety aspect is not involved a relaxation of 10 per cent in the minimum qualifying marks is granted to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates.
- (g) If, despite the above concessions the requisite number of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates is not available for filling up selection posts the best amongst them i.e. those who secure the highest marks are provisionally earmarked for being placed on the selection panel to the extent vacancies have been reserved in their favour. The candidates so earmarked are promoted for 6 months on an *ad-hoc* basis and during this period they are given facilities for improving their knowledge and coming up to the requisite standard at the end of the six month period a special report is obtained by the General Manager on the working of these candidates

and their names are finally included on the selection panel provided he is satisfied in regard to their performance.

- (h) Instructions have also been given to the Railways to organise pre-selection coaching classes for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates so as to reduce the number of failures in promotion tests.
- (i) Special Cells have been set up at the Railway Board's level as also at the Headquarters' and Divisional levels on the Railways to watch the progress in regard to making good shortfalls in the recruitment of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates. The Cell in the Railway Board is headed by a Senior Officer who is assisted by two Advisers—one each from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Cells at the level of the Headquarters of Railways is headed by a Senior Personnel Officer who is assisted by the necessary contingent of Class III staff.
- (j) A Brochure on Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Railway Services containing various orders issued by Ministry of Home Affairs/Department of Personnel as embodied and adopted by the Railway Ministry has been issued for the guidance of all concerned.

6 To make good the existing shortfall in Class II Class II and Class IV categories a special drive has been launched and the Railway Administrations have been directed to make every possible effort to make good the shortfall both in direct recruitment and promotional categories by 31st March, 1976.

7 During the last three years the General Managers have, under the

powers vested in them recruited 384 Scheduled Castes and 587 Scheduled Tribes to Class III posts

SHRI S M SIDDAYYA I find in the statement that several measures have been taken to wipe out the deficiency in the representation of the Scheduled castes and I congratulate the Ministry on taking such steps as they have given a lead to the other Ministries also

One of the measures that they have taken is to arrange for pre selection coaching classes for the candidates belonging to these communities to make them fit for promotion to higher posts I would like to know how many such classes were arranged during the last three years and how many were able to get promotion to higher posts

SHRI BUTA SINGH It will be difficult to give the number of special classes as the system has been introduced quite recently and all the railways have been instructed to arrange these classes

During the recruitment year April, 1974 to March 1975 the direct recruitment of Scheduled Castes was 7 696 and of Scheduled Tribes 7 430

SHRI S M SIDDAYYA I would like to know the actual deficiencies which existed on 31st March 1975 in Classes I II III and IV and whether the deficiency has been to a certain extent wiped out by now Also in view of the fact that the deficiency is more in Class I and Class II posts may I know whether the Ministry has any proposal to increase the percentage of reservation from 15 to 30 per cent for Scheduled Castes and from 7½ to 15 per cent for Scheduled Tribes, so that the deficiency may be made up in these categories also by March 1976 If there is no such proposal may I know what other steps the Minister wants to take to wipe out the shortfall?

SHRI BUTA SINGH Increasing the proportion of the Scheduled Castes is

an all India question and a decision on that has to be taken by the Government of India With the present percentage available we were able to recruit during the last three years 384 and 587 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively after the special steps that were introduced on the Indian Railways The shortfall up to 31st December 1975 was 1 138 in Scheduled Castes and 1,564 in Scheduled Tribes in Class III and 1,947 in Scheduled Castes and 5 234 in Scheduled Tribes in Class IV

SHRI R S PANDEY On the floor of this very House the Prime Minister once said that in all walks of life representation for the Scheduled Castes would be considered and given May I know after the emergency what steps have been taken with regard to giving representation to the SC & ST?

SHRI BUTA SINGH Immediately after the emergency a special conference was held of all the Chief Personnel Officers of the railways and special steps were taken such as reservation for SC & ST made applicable to the posts of senior scale of Class I, which were not earlier available which are filled by promotion from Class II, (2) There are no minimum qualifying marks in the interview Similarly no minimum qualifying marks have been laid down in the written tests for recruitment of popular categories As far as technical categories are concerned the answer books in the written examination are valued sympathetically In the first year in which a single vacancy occurs the vacancy is treated as unreserved irrespective of the roster point and the quota is carried forward If however in the second year also only one vacancy occurs that is treated as reserved for SC & ST as the case may be We have also asked for the organising of pre-selection coaching classes for the benefit of SC & ST employees appearing in the selection to a higher grade to wipe out the deficiency of the SC & ST in the intermediate grades which are partly filled by direct recruitment

Powers have been given to the General Managers

MR SPEAKER You can give the reply in brief and not read out the whole thing

SHRI BUTA SINGH These are steps that are taken in addition to what the Home Ministry has done This is the special drive launched by the Railway Board

श्री रामबतार शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष जी 1974 की हड़ताल में जिन कर्मचारियों ने हड़ताल तोड़कर काम किया उनके बच्चे और बच्चियों की राष्ट्रभक्त कर्मचारी होने के इनामस्वरूप भर्ती की गई है—मैं जानना चाहता हूँ उनकी कुल भर्ती की संख्या क्या है, उनमें शोड्यूल्ड कास्टस और शोड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स की अलग अलग तादाद क्या है और उनका परसन्टेज क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : मुझे ताज्जुब है कि शास्त्री जी समझते हैं कि हमारे रेलवे के कर्मचारी देश विरोधी हैं, हमारे रेलवे के कर्मचारी देश विरोधी नहीं हैं। कुछ लोग जिनका सीडरो ने गलत रास्ते पर लगाया था उनके खिलाफ ऐक्शन लिया जा रहा है। साथ ही जिन रेलवे के कर्मचारियों ने रेलवे का साथ दिया उनकी हम पूरी पूरी मदद करेंगे और उनके बच्चों की मदद करेंगे।

श्री रामबतार शास्त्री मैं ने शोड्यूल्ड कास्टस और शोड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के बारे में पूछा था, उसका जबाब मन्त्री जी ने नहीं दिया।

श्री बूटा सिंह जो लायल एम्पलाईज को एम्प्लायमेंट दिया गया है उसमें बीस प्रतिशत शोड्यूल्ड कास्टस को संख्या पूरी की गई है।

श्रीमती सहोबरा बाई राज्य : मैं मन्त्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि जो पदीनति के

लिए भर्ती की गई है उतने कर्मीयों को संख्या क्या है ?

श्री बूटा सिंह : पदीनति तो उन्ही की होगी जो पहले से संविस में हैं। यह सब है कि लड़कियों की संख्या कम है लेकिन अब इन बात का प्रयास किया जा रहा है कि रेक्यूमेंट में लड़कियों को भी ज्यादा से ज्यादा वास दिया जाये।

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA Regarding recruitment in the railways to Class IV posts, particularly, for the track maintenance, that is, the gangmen, it provides quite a substantial opportunity for employment to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people As the hon Minister knows, the gang men are mainly recruited from the near about villages along the track Therefore every year there used to be a substantial recruitment of Class IV people from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the category of gangmen

My quest on is, whether the Railway Ministry contemplate any reduction in the intake of these class IV people on grounds of economy and whether it is a fact that thousands of casual workers whose services had been terminated during the 1974 railway strike also included a majority of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people So, I would like to know whether in view of this prospect which is resulting in the reduction of the number of gangmen being employed as casual workers, this would not affect the overall employment opportunity of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people for Class IV posts

SHRI BUTA SINGH There is no decision of the Government to reduce, the intake of Class IV employees, specially the casual labour Keeping in view the opening of new projects and the works that are going on, as and when there is a requirement of the casual labour, as many as they

are required. the casual labourers will be taken

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: We have been told the other day by the Railway Minister that on grounds of economy, new projects, new lines, construction projects, are going to be reduced. Therefore, I am asking whether it will not mean shrinkage of overall employment opportunities, particularly for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people and also the people who have been retrenched during the strike.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: As I said, there is no decision of the Government to have economy drive specially for Class IV casual labour. Wherever there is a project, as many casual labourers as are required will be taken. As regards the casual labour that has been retrenched, not as a result of the strike, the nature of the casual labour is such that so long as the project is there, the casual labour is kept and, when there is no project, unfortunately, we cannot keep the casual labour.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI May I add that out of 40,000 casual labourers who had gone on strike, 24,000 have been taken back? The rest will be taken back as soon as the works are restored.

M.R.T.P. Commission's Directions to Automobiles Dealers

*268. **SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI:** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has directed the dealers of automobiles to discontinue the agreements they had entered into for resale prices and maintenance in Delhi and elsewhere; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The reference in Part (a) of the Question to the agreements relating to "resale prices and maintenance..." is presumably to "resale price maintenance". In its order issued on the 29th August, 1975, the M.R.T.P. Commission has directed five New Delhi Dealers of M/s. Hindustan Motors Ltd., Calcutta for the sale of its Ambassador cars, to discontinue to act under an agreement/arrangement/understanding between themselves by virtue and in pursuance whereof they were indulging in the restrictive trade practice of resale price maintenance. The relevant extracts from the Commission's order in this behalf are laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No LT 10234/76*]

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: May I know from the hon. Minister the names of five dealers in New Delhi and whether the directions would also apply to the resale of second-hand cars.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: It does not relate to the resale of second-hand cars.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: What about their names?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: They are: Delhi Automobiles; Delhi Motors and Cycles Co.; Rajiv Motors Private Ltd.; Syndicate Motors Private Ltd.; and Vikas Motors.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: I want to know whether such directions have been given to Fiat and Standard dealers also and, if not, the reasons thereof.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: No, Sir. This was strictly a question of