

SHRI B. N. KUREEL: I have stated that a high-powered committee will go into these problems.

SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANAPPALLI: May I know whether the Government of India is aware of the fact that due to paucity of funds some inevitable payments like customs duty for import of major equipment and payments to contractors are being delayed, with the result there is delay in completing the construction of the project?

SHRI B. N. KUREEL: I am not aware of this fact.

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: The State Government and the State Electricity Board asked for a provision of Rs 14 crores for 1972-73, but the Central Government allotted only Rs. 11 crores. May I know whether the Central Government will make another fresh allotment of Rs. 3 crores for this year for making payments to contractors and others, so that the work may be completed according to the schedule?

SHRI B. N. KUREEL: Yes; the Kerala Government asked for a special assistance of about Rs 3 crores and that is under consideration.

Issue of Hill Station concession tickets without restriction

308 SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a suggestion to issue Hill Station concession tickets without restriction of seasons is under the consideration of Government;

(b) whether any decision has been taken on the suggestion, and

(c) if so, the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). A suggestion was made by the Tourist Development Council at its meeting held at Goa in October, 1972

that the concessional hill station tickets may be issued without any restriction of the season. This concession has no commercial justification. This suggestion is not acceptable as the Railways are not also enlarging the scope of the concession in the context of the present financial difficulties of the Railways.

श्री ई० वी० विके पाटिल : यह कनेक्शन देने में रेलवे के मामले कौन सी डिफिकल्टी है और अगर यह कनेक्शन दिया जायेगा, तो रेलवे को कितना घाटा होगा ? अगर रेलवे मारा साल रियायती टिकट देगी, तो गर्मी के सीजन में रेलों में रज कम हो जायेगा और बैसजर्ज को फायदा और सुविधा होगी । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस में रेलवे का क्या हर्ज होगा ।

SHRI T. A. PAI: The railways are interested in trying to maximise their income so that the general revenues of the country may be augmented. It can not always agree to the concessions that are increasingly demanded. So far as hill stations are concerned, our view is that during the busy season no concession should be allowed because there is so much of over-crowding on the railways. Also, people are prepared to pay fat hotel bills and so they can pay the full charges. I am afraid that if the concessions are allowed during the off-season there is no guarantee that people will travel. On the other hand, those who travel by habit may be affected. In any case, on certain railways we are prepared to examine it even as a commercial proposition, if the offer of these concessions would augment the revenues of the railways.

श्री ई० वी० विके पाटिल : अगर मारे साल के लिए, रियायती टिकट दिया जायेगा, तो रेलवे को पैसा मिलने की गारंटी हो जायेगी । अगर लोग पूरे साल के लिए पैसा दें, तो इस में रेलवे का क्या नुकसान है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य जो मलाह-अस्वरा दे रहे हैं, मिनिस्टर साहब उन को नोट कर लेंगे ।

SHRI T. A. PAI: I am afraid during the winter season even if we offer these concessions, nobody will be encouraged to go to the hill stations.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI: May I know whether a decision has been taken by the Railway Ministry to stop the concession during the summer season also?

SHRI T. A. PAI: No, the existing concessions will continue

रेलवे की आवास समिति में सकेत तथा दूरसंचार विभाग के कर्मचारियों के प्रतिनिधि

* 309 श्री महा बीपक सिंह शाक्य : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि : (क) क्या आवास समिति में सकेत तथा दूरसंचार विभाग का कोई कर्मचारी उक्त विभाग का प्रतिनिधित्व करने हेतु शामिल किया गया है, और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) and (b). Representatives of the recognised Unions are included in Housing Committees in same cases to look after the interests of all Departments including the Signal and Telecommunication Department.

श्री महा बीपक सिंह शाक्य : मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि कुछ मामलों में आवास सम्बन्धी समितियों में मान्यता प्राप्त संघों के प्रतिनिधियों को शामिल किया गया है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे कौन-कौन से संघों के प्रतिनिधि हैं और वे किस-किस रेलवे से सम्बन्धित हैं, जिन को समितियों में शरीक किया गया है । उन के नाम क्या हैं ?

SHRI T. A. PAI: We do not have a uniform system of representation in different railways. It is a matter of historical accident that each railway has a system of its own. If it is suggested that members belonging to a particular department are not represented in some cases, it is quite possible that members of the telecommunications and signal department are also represented. We do not give them representation on the basis of their specialised work. In any area the people who form the majority are likely to be represented on this and there are some official nominees also. In some railways the number of houses constructed are allotted to different types and categories and the different types and categories have their representatives who are permitted to allot them among various sections. If it is brought to my notice that as a result of this some injustice has been done to any section I shall look into this.

श्री महा बीपक सिंह शाक्य : क्या यह सत्य है कि जिन संगठनों के प्रतिनिधियों को शामिल किया गया है वे रेलवे के नियमों के अनुसार योग्यता प्राप्त नहीं हैं और कुछ ऐसे संगठन भी हैं, जो रेलवे की सब शर्तों को पूरा करते हैं और शामिल किये जाने के योग्य हैं, उन को शरीक नहीं किया गया है ? क्या यह सत्य है कि राजनीति के साधन पर ऐसे संगठनों को स्थान नहीं दिया गया है ?