

There has been no unusual working and as such the question of taking note of such conditions did not arise.

**Leave Reserve for Switchman in Dhanbad Division (Eastern Railway)**

\*436. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH:

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sanctioned strength of 20 per cent Leave Reserve for Switchman is adequate to cope with the actual requirements for leave casualties and other purposes;

(b) the total number of Switchmen who applied for LAP and Casual leave in Dhanbad Division during 1972 and 1973 and the reasons for not granting leave;

(c) the total number of Switchmen reported sick mentioning the period of their sickness and the cause of large number of cases of sickness; and

(d) the justification for not sanctioning the percentage of leave reserve of Switchmen at par with the Station Masters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (d). The question of upward revision of the Leave Reserve is under consideration of the Railway Administration.

(b) During 1972, 201 Switchmen applied for LAP and 184 Switchmen applied for Casual Leave. During 1973, 211 Switchmen applied for L.A.P. and 106 Switchmen applied for Casual Leave.

Normally leave applied for has been sanctioned. There have been cases where leave could not be sanctioned readily in the exigencies of service.

(c) 198 Switchmen during 1972 and 321 Switchmen during 1973 reported sick for varying periods, and for various causes.

**Proposal for Giving Concessions to Scooter and Auto-Rickshaw Owners**

\*437. SHRI SHRIKISHEN MODI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering giving some concession to moped auto-rickshaw and scooter owners for the recent increase in the price of petrol; and

(b) if so, the type of concession?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By some concession in Excise duties on Scooter tyres etc.

**Expenditure on Godavari Barrage Project**

\*438. SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTK-HINDE: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated expenditure on Godavari Barrage Project;

(b) whether concurrence to clearance of this Project was asked for from concerned States, which are parties to Godavari water dispute; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) The Godavari barrage project of Andhra Pradesh is estimated to cost Rs. 26.59 crores.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) The Godavari barrage project is only a replacement scheme, envisaging the construction of a new barrage in

place of the existing old anicut which is in a dangerous condition. The project has been approved subject to the condition that, with the construction of the new barrage in place of the old anicut, there should not be any increase in the water utilisation.

#### Foreign owned Chemical Unit resorting to Club Selling

\*439. SHRI M. SUDARSANAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a foreign owned chemical company is reported to have been resorting to club selling of its products by forcing consumers to lift less moving items like butanol and butyl acetate along with their requirement of polythylene powder or benzene;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROQAH): (a) to (c). No complaint from any processor of low density polythylene and/or benzene has been received in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals regarding club-selling of polythylene and/or benzene with butanol and butyl acetate.

#### Memorandum by Guntakal Division Committee of Railway Line Union (Madras)

\*440. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the General Manager, Southern Railway has received a memorandum dated the 14th September, 1973 from the Guntakal Divisional Committee of the Railway Labour Union (Madras) regarding certain staff problems;

(b) the broad features of the problems raised in the memorandum; and

(c) what action has been taken to solve the problems raised?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). A memorandum dated 14-9-1973 was not accepted by the General Manager, Southern Railway when presented to him during his visit to Guntakal. A copy thereof was later received by post along with another letter.

The points contained in the memorandum and the position in their regard are given below:—

Points 1	Remarks 2
(i) Filling up of vacancies, utilisation of substitutes as Cabinmen and Levermen and engaging Salaiwalas on daily wages.	Substitutes are not utilised as Cabinmen and Levermen. There are some vacancies in the Division and action is already in progress to fill them up.
(ii) Enhanced wages for the extra casual labourers.	The rates were enhanced in May, 1973 from Rs. 3/- to Rs. 3.50.
(iii) Posting of E. N. T. & Eye Specialist in the Railway Hospital at Guntakal.	Whenever necessary, the services of the Eye Specialist attached to the Railway Hospital, Mysore and the E. N. T. Specialist attached to the Railway Hospital, Perambur are requisitioned.
(iv) Payment of arrears to engineering staff in regard to night duty allowance, travelling allowances etc.	The arrears have been paid in many cases and necessary action to make payments has been taken in regard to the other cases.