

हिन्दी तथा प्रादेशिक भाषाओं को माध्यम के रूप में लागू करेगी ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेलवे मंत्री (डा० राम सुभग सिंह) :

(क) जी हाँ, लेकिन अनपढ़ प्रशिक्षार्थियों को छोड़कर जिनके लिए माध्यम हिन्दी है ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) और (घ). सवाल नहीं उठता ।

Promotions on Railways

*39. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to State :

(a) Whether it is a fact that there is a complete stagnation on all the Railways in some of the categories for want of promotional avenues ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to open channels of promotion or improve the pay scales ; and

(c) whether any Committee has been appointed to solve this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Channels of promotion already exist for the various categories of staff. The promotion of staff to higher grades depends upon the availability of vacancies in the higher grades. In a large number of categories, posts in the higher grades are created on the basis of prescribed percentages, taking into consideration the degree of responsibilities to be shouldered by staff at each level. In other categories where such percentages are not laid down, posts in higher grades are created on the basis of the worth of the charge. While the position is considered satisfactory, Government are aware that in certain categories of staff, there has been some stagnation at the maximum of the relevant pay scales.

(b) The matter is receiving active consideration with a view to affording relief wherever it is justified.

(c) No Committee has been appointed in this connection.

Treatment of Forced Labour as Cognizable Offence

*40. SHRI JAGESHWAR YADAV :
SHRI SARJOO PANDEY :
SHRI P. C. ADICHAN :
SHRI J. M. BISWAS :

Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in his Report for 1967-68 has suggested the enactment of a Legislation to treat forced labour as a cognizable offence; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (a) Yes.

(b) Under article 23 of the Constitution traffic in human beings and begar and other similar forms of forced labour are prohibited and any contravention of this provision is an offence punishable in accordance with law. However, the system of bonded labour is prevalent in some States. The State Governments are fully seized of the problem and they have taken various executive and legislative measures to combat this evil. A Statement showing these various measures is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

List of Legislative Enactments

A. Debt Bondage—

Andhra Pradesh :

(i) The Agency Debt Bondage Abolition Regulation, 1946,

(ii) The Madras Debt Bondage Regulation, 1940.

Orissa :

The Orissa Debt Bondage Regulation, 1948.

Rajasthan :

The Rajasthan Sagri System Abolition Act, 1961.