

**Work Charged Employees in  
Railways**

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\*248. SHRI ANIL BASU :  
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have recently decided to reduce the number of work-charged staff drastically ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI ANIL BASU : On 4.7.85 reports were published in Anand Bazaar Patrika leading Bengali daily—that Shri G. Venkataraman, Financial Commissioner of Railway Board has issued a circular dated 13th of June, asking different railway divisions to reduce the work charged staff to the extent of fifty to sixty per cent. May I know whether it is a fact that such a circular was issued and what are the details of the said circular ? May I know whether it is a fact that the General Managers of zonal railways were asked to consult the respective financial advisers in connection with the future recruitment and what are the reasons for the same ?

SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Our attempt is to see that Railways run more efficiently and also the construction works are undertaken in a more efficient manner. He referred to the Financial Commissioner. The Financial Commissioner has addressed a demi-official letter to the General Managers in June, 1985 ; this is just to alert the General Managers to review the strength of workcharged staff. There is no question of drastically reducing

it. No such directive has been given. What was indicated in the Financial Commissioner's letter was his personal opinion. It was just to alert the General Managers as such. And, as far as consultation with FA and CAO is concerned, it is just a normal procedure. The attention of the General Managers was drawn to the fact that they should implement these things in consultation with the FA and CAO. This is not something unusual ; this is quite a normal thing.

SHRI ANIL BASU : The Minister replied in part (b) 'Does not arise'. Now he has explained that there are financial constraints. He stated that what was issued was a demi-official letter and it was personal opinion of Financial Commissioner and not the opinion of the Railway Board and the Government. It reveals that although drastic reduction of work-charged staff may not occur, yet, there is a chance of partial reduction of work-charged staff, as published in the newspapers.

Now, the Minister should give clear assurance that no work-charged staff will be retrenched and they will take all the necessary action to see that no retrenchment in respect of work-charged staff is going to occur.

In the year 1980...

MR. SPEAKER : That is all right.

SHRI ANIL BASU : This is the second Supplementary, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, this is the second Supplementary, no third Supplementary.

SHRI ANIL BASU : I am putting the second Supplementary, Sir, (*Interuption*). In the year 1980 the Government took the decision of decasualisation and absorption of all casual workers in the Railways. Till today a large number of casual workers numbering more

than 2 lakhs are yet to be absorbed in the Railways. When is the Government going to absorb all of them and what is the scheduled programme of absorption ?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :** Sir, in answer to the third Supplementary of the Hon. Member, I would like to reiterate that the employment of work-charged staff will continue to be totally need-based. As far as the casual labour is concerned, this is a much wider question. This particular question only pertains to work-charged staff. However, casual labour too is being absorbed on a seniority basis and I think if I am not mistaken if I am mistaken I stand to be corrected—it is about 20,000 to 30,000 a year or so.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Sir, I would like to know whether it is not a fact that several thousand persons were recruited as voluntary ticket checking staff...

**MR. SPEAKER :** That is a long past history. It has been answered so many times.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** No, it has not been answered, Sir. I have not even come to my question.

My question is whether it is not a fact that several thousand persons were recruited as voluntary ticket checking staff violating all norms by the former Railway Minister. Further, I would like to know whether it is also a fact that services of some of them have been terminated or whether their services have been confirmed or they are absorbed as a regular staff in the Railways.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER :** On the one hand you want them to be regularised and on the other you want to chuck them out.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER :** Question No. 249—Dr. Phulrenu Guha.

### Short Stay Homes for Women

\*249. **SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA :** Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) how many short stay homes are run with the grant-in-aid of the Ministry and where are they situated ;

(b) how many girls/women are in those homes ;

(c) how many girls/women are rehabilitated by now ;

(d) what is the amount sanctioned for each home as well as per head ; and

(e) Government's proposal to sanction short stay homes during 1985-86 ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) :** (a) Twenty-one short stay homes are running with grant-in-aid from this Ministry. They are situated at Ahmedabad, Bombay, Dehradun (Kalsi), Delhi Cuttack, Gwalior, Hyderabad, Hooghly, Imphal, Jalandhar, Madurai, Panaji, Patna, Trivandrum, Malegaon (Nasik), Nagpur, Faridabad, Karnal, Lucknow, Sitapur and Kanpur.

(b) About seven hundred women and girls.

(c) During the last five years, about 1511 women/girls have been rehabilitated.

(d) Rs. 98,000 is sanctioned for each Home in the first year and Rs. 83,000 in each subsequent year. Rs. 75 per month is the amount sanctioned for maintenance per inmate.