

## CENTRAL DRUGS LABORATORY

\*1975. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to shift the Central Drugs Laboratory from Calcutta to Lucknow; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Yes.

(b) Attention is invited to the reply given to Part (a) of unstarred question No. 448, dated the 17th July, 1952.

## REPORT ON LOSSES AND DAMAGES TO GOODS IN TRANSIT

\*1976. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Director of the Railway Board who has been appointed to investigate into the cases of losses and damages to goods in transit, has submitted any report of his work; and

(b) how far his jurisdiction of work extended?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) A Director of Railway Board on leave preparatory to retirement was recalled to duty to investigate into the causes of losses and damages to goods in transit.

(b) The monthly salary of the Officer was Rs. 3,000 per month plus Overseas pay of £13-6-8 per month.

The terms of reference were:

(i) To investigate into the causes of abnormally high compensation claims on railways and to suggest and initiate means to reduce them to the minimum.

(ii) To recommend improvements by adopting mechanical processes or otherwise in the procedure of booking passengers and/or merchandise so as to provide more prompt and efficient service and reduce the total cost entailed by cumbersome manual methods.

## POPULATION PROBLEMS

\*1977. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India's opinion has been sought by the United Nations Economic and Social Council to hold a World Conference on Population problems;

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(b) if so, what are the reactions of Government in this regard; and

(c) the important points that have been suggested to be discussed in the proposed conference?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The matter is still under discussion with the Secretariat of the United Nations.

## FOOD SCARCITY IN PEPSU

\*1978. **Shri Chinaria:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost the whole of the Mohendergarh District and some parts of the Sangrur District of PEPSU in Jind and Narwana Tehsils are under famine conditions since last eighteen months;

(b) what steps have been taken in the matter so far; and

(c) whether the Central Government have given any financial help as famine relief to that State (PEPSU)?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) It is correct that scarcity conditions are prevailing in these areas.

(b) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 36.]

(c) Famine relief is the responsibility of State Governments.

## SPECIAL BOARD FOR RECRUITMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES

\*1979. **Shri Jatav-vir:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the late Sardar V. Patel when he was Home Minister in 1946 promised in reply to Shri N. Shivraji the then M.L.A. to set up a special Board for the recruitment of Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, what progress has been made in the matter; and

(c) whether Government will constitute such a Board and pool together all the vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes in all grades of service and make recruitment through the Board so as to ensure that no post reserved for the Scheduled Castes go unfilled by a candidate of these Castes on the plea of non-availability of Scheduled Castes suitable candidates?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) A speech made by the late Sardar Patel during the Budget Debate in 1946 contained the following passage:

"Where the selection is made by departments at present and since it is possible that the same amount of care which we wish to take is not perhaps taken and there may be a legitimate grievance, I have decided to appoint a Board for the selection of candidates to subordinate services which would look after the interest of the Scheduled Castes and minorities so that their grievance may be removed. This will ensure selection more or less on the same lines as is done by the Federal Public Service Commission for other services."

(b) and (c). In December 1947, Government approved in principle the establishment of a Central Subordinate Services Commission, with a view to secure systematic recruitment through an independent agency and also due observance of reservations in favour of Scheduled Castes and minority communities.

In March, 1948, an Officer on Special Duty was appointed to study the practical implications and to work out administrative details. His investigations revealed that the task of such a Commission would be far more difficult and complex than had been anticipated and that Government's original proposal would have to be materially modified.

Meanwhile, Government were also faced with the problem of finding employment for a very large number of displaced Government servants and other highly qualified displaced persons and also of mitigating the human suffering caused by heavy retrenchment in the Supply Department and other organizations which had grown enormously during the war. Government were therefore compelled to announce that, until further orders, priority would be given to these categories of candidates. Until the task of resettlement of these classes is completed, normal recruitment from the open market cannot be resumed. This position was explained by the late Sardar Patel in his answer to Starred Question No. 1199 answered in the Parliament of India on the 29th March, 1950.

I may add that care is being taken to ensure that, even among the priority categories, reservations in favour of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are observed.

#### DEESA-KANDALA RAILWAY LINE

**\*1980. Shri Jasani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when the construction of Deesa-Kandala Railway line is likely to be completed;

(b) how much amount has so far been spent for the construction of this line and how much more is to be spent till the completion of work; and

(c) from when the Goods and Passengers services will commence?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) All the works in connection with the construction of the Deesa-Kandala Railway are expected to be completed by the end of year 1953.

(b) Rs. 3.35 crores have been spent upto end of May, 1952 and Rs. 2.52 crores more are likely to be spent till the completion of the work.

(c) The line is expected to be opened to both passenger and goods traffic in October 1952.

#### OVER-PAYMENT FOR SUPPLY OF COAL

**\*1981. Shri N. S. Nair:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how much of the over-payment for the supply of coal in 1949 of Rs. 56,227 has been recovered; and

(b) what steps have been taken to avoid such over-payments in future?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) The hon. Member apparently refers to the loss mentioned in para. 20 of the Railway Audit Report, 1950. No recovery has been possible as the Law Ministry advised that a price notification could not be given retrospective effect as it affects past financial transactions.

(b) As recommended by the Public Accounts Committee in their report issued in April 1952, a procedure is being evolved in consultation with the Ministry of Production and the Coal Commissioner, to ensure better co-ordination between the two Ministries to avoid the recurrence of such losses.

#### PURCHASES FROM 'TELCO'

**\*1982. Shri N. S. Nair:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what amounts were paid to the 'Telco' for purchases during the 'A'