

(b) if so, the caste-wise statistics of such reversions ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

TRANSFER OF RAILWAY STAFF FROM S. C. RAILWAY

3642. **SHRI NAMBIAR** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of employees who had opted for Southern Railway at the time of the bifurcation of the Railway into two, have not been transferred yet from the South-Central Railway against the spirit of the promise given;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether clerical staff in particular from Hubli of the South Central Railway have been making repeated requests to implement the earlier promise and that they had even resorted to direct action for this transfer; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not transferring them ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a), (b) and (d). At the time of giving options it was made clear that mere exercise of an option did not entitle an optee to automatic transfer according to his option. Transfers of optees have been effected on 'man to man' basis between South Central and Southern Railways in accordance with priorities laid down for the purpose, as permitted by the administrative convenience of the Railways concerned. On this basis, 220 out of about 2362 optees have been sent to South Railway.

In addition, a special dispensation was also given to such of the optees in the recruitment grades of Hubli, Vijayawada Divisions etc. of South Central Railway to the effect that they could also seek transfer to Southern Railway on loss of seniority.

The optees not covered by any of the provisions referred to above are not intended to be transferred to Southern Railway.

(c) It is correct that some staff in Hubli have been pleading for transfer to Southern Railway on the basis of their options. It is, however, not correct to state that any promise had been made to them that those who opt would necessarily be transferred.

IRON ORE DEPOSIT

3643. **SHRI K. M. Koushik** : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) the present State-wise estimate of the total iron ore deposit in the country;

(b) if so, the quantity available in each State; and

(c) the extent of exportable surplus after meeting the requirements of public sector steel plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY) : (a) and (b). The total possible reserves of all the types of iron ores, i.e., hematite, magnetite and limonite and spathic ore, in India are estimated at 21,478 million tonnes and out of these hematite ore constitutes 17,810 million tonnes. The total proved and indicated reserves of high grade hematite ores in India are estimated to be of the order of 5,623 million tonnes. A table showing proved and indicated reserves in various States in India is given below :—

| | (in million tonnes) |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Hematite ores— | |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 42 |
| 2. Bihar | 1,063 |
| 3. Goa | 239 |
| 4. Kashmir | 5 |
| 5. Madhya Pradesh | 1,589 |
| 6. Maharashtra | 27 |
| 7. Mysore | 918 |
| 8. Orissa | 1,723 |
| 9. Haryana | 2 |
| 10. Rajasthan | 5 |
| 11. Uttar Pradesh | 10 |
| TOTAL | 5,623 |

(in million tonnes)

| B. Magnetite ores— | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 20 |
| 2. Bihar—Orissa | 5 |
| 3. Himachal Pradesh | 61 |
| 4. Madras | 310 |
| 5. Mysore | 218 |
| TOTAL | 614 |

| C. Limonitic and spathic ores— | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Bengal | 508 |

(c). During the year 1966 the production of iron ore was 26.5 million tonnes and exports were over 13 million tonnes. In view of extensive iron ore deposits in the country, it will be possible for some time to export sizeable quantities of iron ore.

FOREIGN COLLABORATION FOR MINING IRON ORE

3644. SHRI K. M. Koushik : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating foreign collaboration in iron ore mining; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries with which such collaboration is envisaged and the terms thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) and (b). The Government has under consideration the proposal for detailed investigation and exploitation of the Kudremukh Magnetite iron ore deposits in Mysore which have been prospected by the National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. An offer of technical and financial collaboration in conducting metallurgical tests and pilot plant investigations preliminary to commercial exploitation of the deposits has been received from an American firm together with its three Japanese associates. The offer is under consideration.

WORK LOAD ON ENGINEERING STAFF

3645. SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work load on Railway

Engineering staff has increased substantially as compared to 1952;

(b) whether the permanent cadre of Engineers has also been increased; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

FERRO TYPERS IN RAILWAY DRAWING OFFICES

3646. SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the cadre of Ferro typers in the Railway drawing offices is skilled; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not giving them the scales of skilled labour ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

CLASS III DRAWING AND OUT-DOOR ENGINEERING STAFF

3647. SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Class III Drawing and outdoor Engineering staff on the Northern Railway have been declared surplus and provided with alternative jobs without any pay protection ;

(b) whether similar staff declared surplus in 1946 were given due pay protection; and

(c) if so, the reasons for this discrimination and the steps taken to remove this anomaly ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes.

(b) Some protection of pay was given when fixing the pay of the surplus staff who were absorbed in alternative employment at that time.

(c) The question whether a similar protection may be given to staff who are being and have been declared surplus at the present time is under consideration.