

and agreements are arrived at with them.

As regards the 6 point charter of demands, some of the demands are under active consideration whereas others, which are intimately linked with the problems of wages, incomes and prices, will be considered only after the in-depth study of these problems by the Bhoothlingam Committee recently appointed by the Government.

Some of the issues such as the questions of MISA, 42nd Constitutional amendment etc. raised in the charter of demands, cannot be considered by the Railways alone, since they are the wider issues on which Government has to take the decision.

The issues arising out of the May 1974 strike and other questions mentioned in the charter are under consideration. One issue connected with the strike of May 1974 has been decided and orders have been issued on 1-3-1978 that period of absence of railway employees during that strike should be adjusted against their leave due, and where no leave is due, by sanction of extraordinary leave without pay.

Duty Roster of SMs.

3774. SHRI RAM PRAKASH TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the duty roster of Station Masters where there is one Station Master and two Assistant Station Masters over all Indian Railways, zone-wise;

(b) duty roster of Assistant Station Masters where there are two Assistant Station Masters and one Station Master over all Indian Railways, zone-wise; and

(c) duty roster of Assistant Station Masters and Wireless Operators where they are classified as Intensive over all Indian Railways, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Leave Reserve SMs. and ASMs.

3775. SHRI RAM PRAKASH TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board issued orders for providing of leave reserves Station Masters and Assistant Station Masters grade Rs. 425-640/- over all Indian Railways vide letter No. 3E/73 LR19 Pt. II dated 6-6-77;

(b) whether it is a fact that any member of Lok Sabha has represented to the Administration for providing Leave reserve Station Masters grade Rs. 425-640/- in Dehi Division; and

(c) if so, details of action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) Instructions issued on 6-6-1977 provide that 25 per cent posts earmarked as Leave Reserve for ASM/SM in grade Rs. 425-640 in the grade itself should be met from within the number of posts already upgraded to the scale of Rs. 425-640 (RS). This obviously implied that no additional posts are to be created in the higher grade and the existing posts in this grade have to be earmarked as Leave Reserve. The provision of Leave Reserve to the extent of 25 per cent in the same higher grade is also applicable to the category of Station Masters.

However, as a result of discussion with organised labour, the instructions issued on 6-6-1977 are under review.