

all examinations or from the date of recruitment; and

(b) whether the seniority of those who came from other Railways is counted from the date of their working as Assistant Station Masters while that of the Assistant Station Masters of this Railway is counted from the date of their appointment as permanent Assistant Station Masters?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The seniority of Assistant Station Masters appointed before 1st March, 1945 has been determined on the basis of rate of pay as on 1st March, 1945 and those appointed after 1st March, 1945 on the basis of date of appointment to the grade.

(b) Assistant Station Masters coming on transfer from other Railways on administrative grounds are given seniority in accordance with the length of service as Assistant Station Masters and those coming on transfer at their own request or on mutual exchange are normally placed at the bottom of the seniority list. On the N. E. Railway Seniority is now counted as explained in the reply to part (a) from the date of appointment to the grade and not date of confirmation therein.

EASTERN SHIPPING CORPORATION

183. Shri Gidwani: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendation of the Estimates Committee that the work relating to the chartering of steamers for the carriage of food grains should be entrusted to the Eastern Shipping Corporation which is a joint undertaking of Government and private enterprise, instead of entrusting the same to foreign agencies; and

(b) if so, what is their decision?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwal): (a) and (b). The recommendation is still under the consideration of the Government of India.

MICA MINES LABOUR WELFARE COMMITTEE NELLORE

184. Shri Raghavaiah: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of the Welfare Committee asked Labour Unions to send their representatives to the Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund Advisory Committee, Nellore;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the names of those Unions and their reply thereto; and

(c) whether the nominations of the Labour Unions were accepted by the Chairman?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) The Chairman invited suggestions from the Unions for the appointment of two persons to represent the interests of workers.

(b) The Andhra Rashtra Mica Mazdoor Panchayat, forwarded a panel of three names. The Nellore District Mining Labour Union, declined to submit a panel unless 51 per cent. of the seats were given to the nominees of the Union.

(c) One of the members from the panel submitted by the Andhra Rashtra Mica Mazdoor Panchayat was appointed by Government. The question of accepting the recommendation of the Nellore District Mining Labour Union did not arise as that union declined to forward any names.

भोपाल डाक जाने में नियुक्तियां

१८६. श्री सूर्य्य प्रसाद : क्या संभार मंत्री यह बतान की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १९५२-५३ में मध्य भारत में भोपाल डाक ज़ोन में कितने लोगों को नियुक्त किया गया; और

(ख) इन में अनुसूचित जाति के कितने लोग थे ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications. (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The

number of appointments made during 1952-53 in the ex-Princely State of Bhopal (which presumably is what is meant by Bhopal Postal Zone) is 4 in Class III and 3 in Class IV.

(b) One in Class III and none in Class IV.

PRICES OF WHEAT

185. Shri Barman: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the market price of wheat in different States after decontrol and in Delhi; and

(b) the off-take of wheat in West Bengal prior to control and after the imposition of control during 1944 to 1953 in each year?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). Two statements showing (i) the market prices of wheat in different States and in Delhi after decontrol from November, 1953 to February, 1954, and (ii) the off-take of wheat in West Bengal prior to control and on imposition of control during 1944 to 1953 are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 6.]
