

(b) Several measures, both short term and long term, have been or are being taken to improve the economics of working of this plant [through increased production. Apart from repairs and renovations to different sections of this old plant a scheme is already under implementation for manufacture of triple superphosphate at Sindri. This would eliminate dependents on natural gypsum, the quality and supplies of which are presenting difficulty and also ensure regular supply of by-product gypsum for production of ammonium sulphate.

2. Since these measures cannot by themselves be expected to improve the economics of working of this plant beyond a certain point, a large scale expansion and modernisation is also contemplated. The scheme which would increase the capacity for production of Nitrogen from about 90,000 tonnes per annum to about 2,55,000 tonnes per annum would be based on heavy petroleum fractions as the feedstock in lieu of coke/coke oven gas being presently used as feedstock at Sindri. This scheme is estimated to cost about Rs. 96 crores.

Promotion of Technically trained qualified staff as Laboratory Superintendent on Indian Railways

4796. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:
SHRI SHIV SHANKAR PRASAD
YADAV :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) how many Pathologists/Laboratory Superintendents / Chemists/Biochemists / Asstt. Chemists/Laboratory Assts/Laboratory Technicians/Laboratory Attendants are trained in analysis of food-stuffs, water sewage and Bio-chemistry subjects on each Zonal Railway, separately ;

(b) how many employees shouldered full heavy technical responsibility of Laboratory Superintendent during his absence/sickness etc. and were paid allowances ; and

(c) how many members of staff are independently working and conducting analysis as laid down by the Indian Railways Medical Manual ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) :**

(a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Diploma-holder Assistant Chemist's
Promotion as Laboratory Superin-
tendent (Ra. 325-575)**

4797. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Assistant Chemists having diploma in Medical Laboratory Technician course and more than five years experience and adequately technically qualified and trained in analysis of food-stuff, water, Chemical-Bio-Chemistry are not entitled to officiate as Laboratory Superintendent (Ra. 325-575) in short term leave vacancies ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) :**

(a) and (b) : The minimum qualification prescribed for the post of Laboratory Superintendent is B.Sc. (Chemistry) with 5 years' experience in analysis of food, water, drugs or Clinical Bio-chemistry. The selection is by the Railway Service Commission. Serving staff who have put in a minimum of 5 years' service, are given age relaxation upto 45 years for this selection.

It will not be desirable to put staff without minimum technical qualifications in charge of Laboratories in the Medical Department.