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Vol IV No 11 May 58

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TELE FLASH

Vol. IV

MAY '58

No. 11



*Happy May Day Greetings
to
all Our Members
and
Readers*

Official Journal of the All India Telegraph Engineering Employees Union, Class III, Circle Branch, Madras

Circle Secretary's Notes

Problems at the Circle Level:

During the bi-monthly interviews we have represented several problems pending for years at the Circle level. Our experience has been that these interviews were not much fruitful since they were considered just 'formal' interviews. Prior preparation on the administration's side of all relevant materials pertaining to the cases from the concerned sections in the office and from subordinate officers in the Divisions, proper scrutiny of these materials and recording of clear decisions on them, and thereafter implementing those decisions, were not being done in a serious manner. The result was that month after month, and even year after year, the same problems continued with little or no progress while the bi-monthly interviews also went on! The interviews between the Unions and the P.M.G. are for the purpose of settling the problems brought by the Unions across the table by mutual discussion and if this objective of interviews is lost sight of then it becomes just a meaningless formality which will be a "burden" for the administration and quite useless as a forum for discussion, settlement and for creating mutual understanding.

The Circle Secretaries of eight Circle Unions therefore sought a special interview with the P.M.G. to discuss this problem and to find out ways and means of improving the situation. The P.M.G. agreed with these objectives and promised several changes in the whole conduct of the monthly interviews. Apart from procedural matters, what is required is to keep these objectives constantly in mind, namely, that to make the interviews serve their purpose the prior preparations of factual data, the scrutiny of these materials and taking of decisions after frank discussions with the Union representatives and after accommodating their views also, and then implementation of those decisions as quickly as possible.

The present P.M.G. Sri Anantha Krishnan is known for his hard work, his knowledge of departmental procedures and rulings and his earnestness to do things and get things done. With such a P.M.G., therefore, the monthly interviews must succeed and we hope that hereafter they will succeed.

We have given a memorandum detailing some very long pending cases in this Circle

with their previous history. (*Reproduced elsewhere*) The interview will probably take place in May '58. We will await the results of that interview most anxiously.

Posting of LSG Monitors against 2/3 quota:

After our repeated representations the postings have been done at last. I am sure it will be realised that the upgrading of these posts is a major achievement to the credit of our Union, which we had not got all these years. We are thankful to the C.H.Q. and the Federation. We also thank Sri Lal Bahadur Sastri, the ex-Minister for Communications.

A Clarification:

Some members have raised a point whether Phone Inspectors promoted from cadres other than T. Os are eligible for promotion as L.S.G. Monitors. The rulings in this regard are already existing in the department and no new rulings have been given. Only the number of LSG posts have been increased. As per these rulings all PIs are also eligible for these posts. While a PI promoted from T. O's cadre will count his service, for purpose of promotion as LSG, from the date of his entry as T.O. (in the case of post 43 officials) both cadres being same originally, a PI promoted from Lineman's or Mechanic's Cadre will count his service from the date of his entry in the cadre of P. I. i.e., Rs. 60-170 (in the case of pre 44 officials, the criterion will be date of confirmation instead of date of entry in service.) This is being offered since some confusion seems to exist among some members regarding the actual ruling position.

The Impending Menace:

Members will recall my notes in the last issue of Teleflash regarding filling up of 1/3 LSG. There is no room for complacency about the impending "selection". An irreparable harm would have been done, if this 'selection by discretion' is allowed to these posts. Discuss this matter in your general body and devise concerted measures to prevent the danger or to resist it if it comes. Don't be caught napping! You are alerted.

Overtime in casual leave vacancies:

The Director-General's orders on grant of O. T. in casual leave vacancies have been (Continued on 3rd cover page)

The TELE-FLASH

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Subversive of Discipline

Sri Nehru, our Prime Minister speaking at the Indian Institute of Public Affairs in April, 1956 gave vent to his feelings about the Civil Services Conduct Rules as follows:-

"...I must confess that with the present rules in vogue, the administrative side is something which is beyond my understanding...Whenever I look into the Civil Services Rules I am astonished how in spite of the impediments these rules put, the Govt. had functioned...These rules were framed 50 or 40 or 20 years ago. There is hardly any of these rules which is less than 20 years old. I cannot conceive how these rules can be wholly applicable to India today...The whole background and environment of Independence require a new approach to our problems. Unfortunately we are still bound hand and foot with something which has no place and relevance today. We have to get rid of it..."

The political and economical interests of an alien ruling class required the creation

and maintenance of a particular structure of administrative machinery and a set of codes of conduct for the workers. It was not the approach of a national public service run for the benefit of the people of this country in which the patriotic sentiment of the workers had to be roused and they also made participants in the Service, by evolving democratic procedures of joint management and vesting the workers with democratic and trade union rights.

But when the entire outlook of the services underwent a revolutionary change on the achievement of Independence by our country and subsequently by the acceptance of our constitution the outdated nature of these rules became all the more glaring!

Not only were the workers feeling themselves throttled and their initiative curbed by these rules but the

Govt. themselves found them as a drag and an impediment against progress.

Editorial

The national Govt is wedded to a policy of national reconstruction and building of socialism. As a corollary democratic rights have to be conferred on the workers, and their organisations further and further encouraged.

The active patriotic participation of the workers becomes essential for the success of National Reconstruction Schemes. The old relation based on master - servant theory or service for "hire" would be completely out of tune.

The workers, as part of the people of this country, naturally realised this. The vast changes that took place as a corollary to Independence cannot be lost upon any section in this country, much less the working people, for they were themselves partners; nay, the backbone in the struggle for the achievement of Independence.

But then, these democratic urges were not given proper outlet. On the other hand the existing rules, more especially the Govt. Servants Conduct Rules, curbed these urges.

While normally, there should have been a complete identity of interests between the workers and the National Administration, in practice, a conflict of interests arose in this matter.

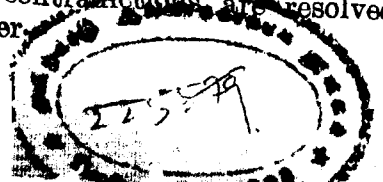
The several conflicts that take place between the Union and the Administration at different levels can be traced to this reason. From a larger National background these are quite unnecessary. But still they arise, doing incalculable harm to the services.

It is the existence of such a situation that is subversive of discipline and peace in the Services. The earlier the contradictions are resolved the better.

The ideals of democratisation of Services, participation of workers in the Administrative machinery and vesting the workers and officers with joint responsibility for the maintenance of the Services and conferring of more democratic rights on the workers and their organisations, should be translated into practice without any further loss of time. It is realised that these will result in a jolt to the existing vested interests of the bureaucracy in the services; but this has got to be done in the interests of evolving a better type of Public Services and a machinery which will function as an instrument for the implementation of National Reconstruction Schemes and building of socialism.

Sri Nehru, rightly gave vent to these feelings. But what has happened in the recent past regarding this is most disappointing. Nay, it seeks to put the clock of progress backwards!

Many provisions in the Conduct Rules are a violation of the fundamental rights granted by the Constitution. In spite of this, these rules are maintained on the Statute Book and executive action is taken against officials, on the basis of these unconstitutional rules. On the eve of the proposed strike by the P&T and Central Govt. Employees in August last year, further amendments were made depriving the workers of the right to strike and to demonstrate and curtailing their rights to form associations of their choice. While the "Essential Services Ordinance" passed by the President was withdrawn, these amendments were continued. Sri Nehru's assurance on the floor of the Parliament that these will not be used in case there was no strike was



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violated. Subsequently the D. G. P&T has given a sweeping interpretation to the term 'demonstration' so as to include most of the legitimate Trade Union activities of the workers within its purview.

And now Sri Pant, the Home Minister, speaking in Parliament last month, states that these rules have come to stay, to prevent subversion of discipline in the services. It is a strange method of preventing indiscipline. These rules which are the actual causes for the prevalence of an atmosphere of conflict in the services, not only now but even before, cannot and will not restore peace in the services. On the other hand they will only accentuate the conflicts.

It is not an issue between the Administration and Unions of the

workers in the narrow sense of the term. What is at stake is the future of the services in the country and the peaceful evolution of the democratic machinery of Public service. The attitude of the Home Minister, we regret to observe, is most shortsighted.

Let the Govt not depart from the ideals they have themselves put before the country, and so ably expressed and propagated by our Prime Minister. We appeal to all democratic organisations in the country to exert themselves for the cancellation of these reprehensible, anti-national, unconstitutional and "subversive" rules and for the evolution of better relations in the services based on rules that are in tune with the requirements of today.

FELICITATION

The Circle Secretary's greetings to Com. E. X. Joseph, Secretary General, A-I Non-Gazetted Accounts & Audit Association C. H. Q. Bombay.

Dear Comrade,

I was very much delighted to read in the newspaper that at the recent Conference of your Union held at Gwalior, you have been elected as its Secretary General. I hasten to send you the greetings of the Circle Union as well as my personal good wishes.

May your stewardship lead your association to further consolidation and successes and cement our unity with you still more closely.

With comradely Greetings.

Yours fraternally,

A. M. A. Majeed.

Circle Secretary.

Acknowledgement by Com E. X. Joseph:

Dear Comrade,

Thanks a lot for your letter. Your warm best wishes are sure to be a great source of inspiration to me. The selfless work done by you and your colleagues were always a model before me in the past.

You may already be aware that the attitude of our authorities is not sympathetic. Anytime the blow may come upon us. I am sure you will help us with all your might. Please also devote some space in your most precious journal for publication of our news. I am sending a report of our Gwalior Conference shortly.

You may be glad to know that I am advising all the units to subscribe to "Tele-flash."

With warm greetings.

Yours fraternally,

E. X. Joseph,

Secretary General.

MAY DAY AND OUR TASKS

—: C. M. N. :—

May Day reminds every worker of his duty to work for the realisation of a society free from class conflicts, pain and misery; a society, where there will be an abundance of production of material goods that there will be no necessity for one man to exploit another man, one nation to exploit another nation, but where all can be equal, free and happy and united; where all can, together, set the next goal of conquering nature, planets and so on. The sacrifice of Chicago workers on May 1st 1886, was not only for an eight hour day but was also inspired by the dream of such a society - socialism.

Only the most suppressed and oppressed of sections of people in the world viz., the working class, could give the slogan of socialism to Humanity. It is only they who could realise that when all are free they can also be free, and only when all are happy they can also be happy. No other class in society can be so selfless as the working class, no struggle of any other class for its own advancement be simultaneously in the interests of all others also as the struggle of working class. Hence the working class is rightly called the most progressive class in society—a class which has nothing to lose but its chains. The working class has to realise the mantra of our ancient rishies "Loka Samastha sukhini Bhavanthu" (All people be happy!)

There are countries in the world today where the working class has become the leaders of entire people where class distinctions are being eliminated and all are marching with a single aim towards the great goal of socialism.

In our country the goal of the working class has been accepted by the country as its own goal and to that extent it is the victory of the workers and their ideology. But they have to unite themselves and the entire people behind this goal and unleash their activities to realise their goal and to shatter the obstacles on their path towards that goal.

Socialism can come only when a country is more industrialised, where there is more and more production of all that is needed for the life and growth of the people. Our country till recently was forced to remain a backward country due to foreign enslavement.

It is free to-day. Today the Govt and the people of this country are engaged in building it anew. As a first step towards building our nation we have got the Five year Plans. The first plan is over. The II Plan is on.

The II Plan has its objectives such as increasing the living standards of the people, ending unemployment, building heavy machinery etc. Today our country spends crores and crores of rupees for importing machinery from outside. But when our steel plants at Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur come up we will be able to produce machines of our own and save a lot of money. Today even blades are not being produced in our country in sufficient quantity and quality! Hence heavy industrialisation programme in the II plan which will make our country self-sufficient is supported by all patriotic sections of the people and especially the working class. Similarly we do not have enough rice or wheat in this country. To end this situation a series of dams are being built like the Bhakra Nangal etc. When we realise all targets like these set down in the II Plan we will take one big step towards progress of our country. Hence it is the duty of the working class to ceaselessly strive to realise these targets and make a great success of II plan.

The Government of our country needs all support from the working class for the completion of II Plan. But certain policies of the government especially those of relying on the old British made administrative machinery and the rich classes for fulfilling the plan have created serious crisis in the path of implementation of the plan and has failed to mobilise the people's enthusiasm behind the plan. It has not rallied the workers also behind the plan. The plan is also being attacked by reactionary forces themselves to deprive of its beneficial features.

The failure of the plan will result in our country going backwards and not forwards, its falling into the hands of vested interests and exploitation of their parties who stand against socialism.

Today, therefore what is the duty of the working class? Its duty is clear. To stake its everything to realise the targets of the II Plan. A united working class with a

united aim can achieve this. A divided working class will be the best guarantee for the failure of the plan. Hence uniting the working classes and inspiring them to do its duty by itself and the country is one of the foremost tasks of the day.

In our country more increase in production alone will not be enough so as to march towards socialism. For if only there is increased production in the hands of a few it will not mean progress in the living standards of the majority, greater equality etc. There must be more and more of equal distribution of increased production. So while the working class has to ceaselessly strive for increased production they will have to see that workers and people get increased share of this production. They will have to struggle, if necessary, against policies of Govt. and vested interests which go against such a principle which has also been laid as one of the objectives in the II plan - bridging the gap of inequality.

MAY DAY AND OUR TASKS

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The Central Govt. Employees & P&T workers, who form a part of the working class of this country have got a great role to play in this struggle of the nation to rebuild itself. Their biggest task is to make their respective departments more and more democratic, more and more efficient and thus transform them into real instruments of service to the people for achieving the plan targets. They must co-operate with the Govt to the utmost possible extent in this task despite likely provocations from various quarters, attitude of bureaucracy and also against such policies of the Govt. which prevent them from playing their role creditably. They have also to wage united struggles to win increase in their living standards consistent with the increase in production.

These are some of the major tasks of the working class and specially the Central Govt. Employees about which, I think, we should remind ourselves on this "May Day"

SOME CONCESSIONS

Training of Candidates who qualified in E. Ss Trade Test

It is reliably learnt that a training class of the Trade Test qualified officials will be started next month. 140 officials will be sent in the following manner:—

Andhra	— 3	Hyderabad	— 5
Assam	— 5	Madras	— 33
Bengal	— 13	Orissa	— 2
Bihar	— 2	Punjab	— 22
Bombay	— 32	Rajasthan	— 8
C. P.	— 5	U. P.	— 13

Wiremen made eligible for promotion as T. Os.

Director - General has issued orders in his No. 207/4/59 STB dated 10-4-58 permitting wiremen and Telegraph linemen, who were originally ineligible to become Telephone Operators, also to appear for the departmental examination and get selected as T. Os against the departmental quota. This puts an end to a long standing grievance of wiremen and Telegraph linemen.

Qualifying service limit for promotion to Clerical and allied cadres abolished.

In his No. 35-9-57 SPB dated 2-12-57 the Director General has abolished the minimum

service limit of five years as necessary qualification for permitting departmental candidates to appear for the examination to clerical and allied cadres. An official need only be permanent or quasi permanent.

Orders on Grant of Casual leave:

D. G. P. & T. No. TE 18-19/56 (A) dated 27-3-58.

The President has been pleased to decide that expenditure may be incurred on account of the absence of the officials on casual leave by payment of overtime allowance to Telephone Operators and Repeater Station Assistants irrespective of the size of offices, after leave reserve available at the station has been used up.

Action to revise Rule 100 (a) of P&T Manual Volume IV is being taken separately.

(By another order issued earlier, the S. D. Os have been given authority to sanction overtime allowance not exceeding an amount of Rs. 50/-)

MIGHT OF UNITY

1. Bangalore Linestaff go into action

April 12th, 1958 was a **Red Letter Day** in the history of the A.I.T.E.E. Union, Line staff and class IV, Bangalore Branch, on which day more than 75 line staff and Cl. IV workers of Bangalore went on action to protest against the high-handedness of a Class II officer, Sri V. G. Srinivasan, who behaved so inhumanly with a Sub-Inspector, Telegraphs, Sri Gangadharan.

The immediate reason for this was that Sri V. G. Srinivasan, SDOP (OD) Bangalore entered the Linestaff Rest Room, Auto exchange, Bangalore on the 11th at about 11.30 Hrs. and misbehaved by kicking with his leg, with shoe on, a Sub-Inspector Sri Gangadharan who was asleep on a bench at the Rest Room, where about 5-6 Linestaff comrades were also sitting.

Immediately after the incident the linestaff assembled in the evening, discussed the issue and decided to inform the Secretary of the Linestaff Union to take up with DET BG demanding an open enquiry into the case.

The next day, on the 12th, they all attended duty as usual, took all the faults (interruptions) to be attended to, and came to DET's office where they met the Secretary and explained to him the complete details of the untoward incident and requested the Secretary to take up with the DET and demand for an open enquiry. They also intimated their firm decision that they will not go on duty until the enquiry was over.

According to the wishes of the members, the Secretary met the DET, Sri N. Madhava Menon, and appraised him of the entire situation and demanded an enquiry straight away.

The DET after hearing of the matter, assured that he would take action against the officer responsible and also investigate the matter in the evening. But the members who were present there did not agree to the proposal of the DET and they wanted the enquiry to take place then and there. The members, as a protest against the SDO who had misbehaved by kicking the S.I. who was in his uniform, removed their uniforms and kept them in the DET's office compound and resolved not to wear uniforms until the SDO unconditionally apologised.

Shri N. Madhava Menon, DET Bangalore conducted the enquiry in a most judicial manner. The hearings of Sri V. Gangadharan, S.I. the affected, and Sri V. G.

Srinivasan, SDOP, who was responsible for this situation were recorded in the first instance in the presence of the workers.

Sri V. G. Srinivasan, SDOP, during the enquiry, denied the charge and stated that he did not kick the S.I. but he kept one of his legs on the bench where the S.I. was sleeping and patted by his hand on his legs to wake him.

Then evidences of Comrades B. V. Raman S.I., Velayudhan, C.J., Muthu, LM, Balakrishnan, LM, N. C. Rangacharlu and Narasimhalu ESs were recorded.

All the witnesses except Messrs. Rangacharlu and Narasimhalu stated that Sri V. G. Srinivasan entered the Rest Room shouting and kicked Sri Gangadharan, S.I. who was asleep. Messrs. Rangacharlu and Narasimhalu said that they only saw the SDO keeping his leg on the bench on which S.I. was sleeping and did not see him kicking as they were behind the SDO.

The enquiry came to an end by about 15.00 hrs.

The DET Bangalore Sri N. Madhava Menon, advised Sri V. G. Srinivasan not to behave like this in future with his staff and to gain more and more affection from them instead of antagonising them.

Sri V. G. Srinivasan, regretted very much and expressed his sincere apologies to S.I. Gangadharan in particular and the entire linestaff in general and requested them to forgive and forget what all happened and co-operate with him in future. He also assured the Secretary of the Union, that he will in future act well and requested him to extend his support and co-operation.

The services and support of the Circle Organising Secretary (Mysore) of AITEEU Class III, Madras Circle, was available throughout.

The demonstration ended by about 15.20 hrs when Sri V. G. Srinivasan again expressed his unconditional regrets and requested the members to give their co-operation. Sri N. Madhava Menon, DET Bangalore also assured the members that he will personally see to the better understanding and treatment of the linestaff members particularly, during his tenure of office as DET Bangalore and requested the members to attend to their normal duties as usual.

After this by about 15.30 the staff left DET's office compound to resume duty.

With this, the historic struggle of Linestaff comrades came to an end.

(Contd. on page 10)

Short Story

The Time Limit

—ANANDAVALLI—

The usual screams and noises rent the air when the Mail train steamed into the junction. Pedlars, porters and passengers vied with one another in adding to the Bedlam. Raghubir adjusted his specs and came to the door of the carriage looking for the red trolley and those in charge of it to take delivery of the bags.

"Namaste, Raghubir Bhai" Pannalal jubilantly shouted from the platform. Pannalal was an old colleague of Raghubir and they had seen many a day together in the Department. People liked the effervescent mirth of Pannalal. He laughed more than he spoke.

"Arre Panna. Come quickly. What are you waiting for, grining like that. Did my sister forget to give you the regular box on your ears today?" Raghubir countered Pannalal everytime with this stock jock which made them both laugh.

"Shanti! Shanti! Don't exert too much at night Bhai Saab. You will have Blood pressure". Pannalal was getting ready.

The Station lights blazed. The noise went on. The sleepy passengers were calling for the "Garam Cha". In the sweltering night, the "Thanda pani" was also much in demand.

Raghubir while counting out the bags shouted back over his shoulders, "Get Pani, Gaffoor. Fill the bottle. From here till morning you won't get drinking water". He had to initiate his new assistant into the mysteries of a section.

"Count well, Panna. Don't commit a mistake. Remember the incident of the last week. I have not answered the charge sheet given to me for giving an extra bag here by mistake". Raghubir was cautioning Pannalal.

"Don't worry Raghubir bhai. With the ten minutes' stopping time here how well can you manage to count so many bags. If one or two extras come, you tell them that you found Panna a good fellow and gave him one or two bags as a present". Pannalal could not suppress his mirth.

Raghubir could not help smiling. From the door of the carriage he surveyed the

platform. All the familiar landmarks which he had etched in his mind long ago were there. What about a hot tea. There the "meetha walla" was shouting his wares in an incoherent lingo. He remembered the chubby face of his two year old son who shouted "meetha, meetha" whenever he returned from work. Why not purchase something and take it to his small son. But no. There is no time for all those things. The ten minutes were over. The guard was already testing the power of his lungs over a small whistle and waving a green light in a wild frenzy. The platform, as if by a touch of magic, began to move past quietly first and then quickly. A man shouted some parting instructions to somebody in the train. Raghubir could see a receding Pannalal waving his hands. Just like one of the many days past, Raghubir slightly moved his left hand in answer to Pannalal. As the train gathered speed, he drew a deep breath from the cool air outside, closed the door and shuffled back to his seat. He had work to do. He had to close bags and wait for the next station for delivering another quota. The next station came after a two hour run and this was the time for any relaxation they could hope for in the entire route.

"Close the door, Gaffoor. Don't open the door on the other side when the train stops at platform. It is dangerous. We have a lot of valuable things inside. And you know the Department will not provide us with a guard however much we ask for it. Go to work. If we finish soon, we can take a little rest.

Raghubir's slow words had the desired effect. Gaffoor, though unwillingly, let go the beautiful sight of the brilliantly lit station receding into the distance. He withdrew his head from the window, closed the door on the opposite side and sat for his work.

It was all quiet except for the train wheels drumming out a rhythm. The train was speeding through a dense forest area. Raghubir looked at his old watch. There was still an hour left. They had finished the work quite early. Gaffoor was dozing in his seat. Raghubir yawned luxuriously and leaned back in his chair clasping his hands

over his breast. Something nestled against his hands from his pocket. Sitting erect he took it out and spread it in front of him.

Oh! it was the charge sheet! He remembered his wife Meera handing it over to him with a legitimate pride on her face for having secured it from a shirt he had given for wash! With a cynical laugh he had thanked her and put it again in the shirt pocket.

The train screamed down to a slow halt. Raghubir wondered but reassured himself that it should be a bridge or something of the sort when a lot of precautions were now being taken. The train moved soon enough.

He read through the charge sheet once again. The reply was required within three days. The time limit was underlined also. This was the third day. On returning to headquarters, he had to give a reply. He took a one sided paper and began to draft a reply. What reply could be given. It was true that in the hurry-burry a mistake was committed. It was not always that such things happened to him. But the time limit

was there. He had to answer. His eyes rested on the under line "three days".

"Bab....." There was a shout from Gaffoor which ended in a groan. In a split second something hit his head from the back. He had no time to turn back. It was as if the light in front of him split into a thousand fragments. But they were dimming. A hot liquid was pouring down his back from his head. Meera, Meera, what was his wife doing there in the midst of the splintered lights. He could see her trying to hand over a paper. There was his youngest shouting jubilantly "meetha, meetha". But something dark was there. Yes it is the underline. It is growing. It is growing. The underline will soon cover everything including his Meera, his child—growing.....g.....w.....g.....

Next day papers carried a news item saying that two RMS employees were murdered in a running train and the murderers had escaped with valuables. Investigation was proceeding. After all, the time limit had to be exceeded.

Mass Rally in Madras City - Protest Against Filling up of 1/3 L.S.G. Posts by Selection:

A mass rally under the joint auspices of Postal Cl. 3, R. M. S. Cl. 3 and Engg. Cl. 3 Circle Unions was held on 24-4-58 at the G. P. O. quadrangle, Madras City, under the presidentship of Com. K. Ramamurthy, Vice-President AIEU Cl. 3, CHQ New Delhi. Com D. Gnaniah, Asst. Secretary, AIEU Cl. 3 addressed the rally.

Coms. A. M. A. Majeed, P. H. V. S. Pandyan and G. Lakshmanan Circle Secretaries of the three unions spoke at length on the impending menace.

The meeting protested against the filling up of the 1/3 quota of L. S. G. posts by selection as against the principle of seniority-cum-fitness. It also recommended to the Central Union a course of "Token Action" in case the Administration persisted with the present proposal.

Earlier the workers in the city post offices and RMS offices wore badges.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri on P & T. Department

Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, Minister for Transport and Communications, on March 18, in the Lok Sabha replying to the debate on demands for grants relating to the Ministry of Transport and Communications hinted at the possibility of readjustment in some of the postal and telegraphic rates.

Improving Efficiency

"Some time back" Mr. Shastri said, I had held a conference of the Postmasters-General and the General Managers of the Telephone systems and in that conference I thrashed out several important issues. I would like to say that there are three important issues which should be gone into in case we want to improve the efficiency of the P. and T. Department. The first is the reorganisation of the P. and T. Directorate at the top level. The second is making adequate arrangements for the training of the staff, whether new recruits or those who are already in service, and the third thing which is equally important is a fresh approach in the Directorate towards the workers of the Department and also the workers have to create a better and changed atmosphere in their work in so far as their relations with their officers are concerned."

Reorganisation

On the question of "reorganisation at the top," Mr. Shastri said that it had to be fully realised that the Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones were expanding on a very big scale. The post offices had increased on a colossal scale and so were the telegraph offices. The total number of post offices up to November 30, 1957, was over 60,000 and the number of telegraph offices over 10,000. In the circumstances, when certain complaints were made about the delay and late delivery of telegrams they had to consider the work and scope of the Department and judge such complaints in the correct perspective. If out of 32 crores of letters and money orders say one per cent of it is sometimes delayed or a few of them are not able to reach the proper addressees, it should not mean that the whole Department is functioning in an inefficient manner."

"The P. and T. Department", said Mr. Shastri: "has to deal with a colossal traffic and sometimes when the staff will not discharge their duties properly it is bound to result in inefficiency. What I want to lay stress on at the present moment is that the reorganisation of the P. and T. Department

about which I have mentioned before, has become absolutely essential. The organisation at the present moment functions more or less like other secretariat departments, and the result is that there is constant delay in taking decisions and there are difficulties always coming in the way from the various Ministries, because the rules and regulations are there with which we are concerned."

More Freedom & More Autonomy

Mr. Shastri said: A member from the opposite rightly suggested that the P. and T. Department should be organised on the pattern of the Railway Board. This is not a new suggestion. In fact, I have made the same suggestion in the conference of the postal and Telegraph Department and I am clearly of the opinion that the Department should not be faced with such rules and with such stringent financial control and that it is not likely to move forward or is not able to take any initiative."

"If it is so desired that the P. and T. Department should be run on commercial lines and should be a profitable concern, it is absolutely essential that more freedom and more autonomy should be given to that department" he declared.

Plea for P & T Board

Mr. Shastri said that it was very difficult for a purely administrative machinery to function in a quick manner in a department like the Posts and Telegraphs. It was therefore, essential that some kind of a Board should be set at the Directorate level. It would have to be more or less on the Railway Board pattern. The biggest advantage of this pattern, Mr. Shastri said, was that heads of various departments could discuss matters across the table whereas in other administrative departments files went round, moving about from one department to another which usually took a pretty long time and decisions were sometimes held up for months and months. In the Railway Board, the members could discuss important issues and take decisions then and there, and if there was any special difficulty or if there was problem on which they did not agree, the matter was referred to the Minister who took the final decision. "I do want that something on this line should be done in the P. and T. Department," Mr. Shastri said.

The bigger advantage of the Railway Board pattern, the Minister said, was the independence of finance. The financial Commissioner of the Railway was an officer of the Secretary's rank and he would discuss matters with the Board and take immediate decisions. If a big financial matter was involved or there was any major change, the Commissioner had the right to go to the Finance Minister and take his advice. So there was no difficulty and no contradiction and all the departments could function in a co-ordinated matter.

Faith in Existing Personnel

Mr. Shastri said that he had great faith in the existing personnel who were "coming up very nicely," and he had no doubt that they would get all the encouragement from the department. The personnel being there, the next important thing was the reorganisation of the department. "Unless faith is created among the officers of the P and T Directorate-I am sorry to say that the faith is lacking-they will not be able to go ahead or do real service to the department with which they are concerned", Mr. Shastri added.

Regarding Rates

The Minister admitted that there had been a decline in the traffic both in respect of postal articles and telegrams but the House would have noted, he said, that the revenue from telegrams had increased despite their traffic going down. There had been no doubt an enhancement in the rates

(Cont. from page 8)

II. VICTORY OF R.M.S. WORKERS

(From a city report)

On 1-4-58 the workers in Madras Sorting Divn. demonstrated against the autocratic attitude of the Directorate, P&T, in refusing to yield to their legitimate demand of cancelling the transfers of Class IV Staff from R. O. Y. Dn. (Madras) to the Madras Sorting Dn. on the plea of repatriation. The Cl. IV staff of R. O. Y. Dn. as the Cl. IV of Madras Sorting Dn. had been representing against this proposal for the past two years but the D. G. turned a deaf ear to these requests.

On the day in question 4 Class IV officials from Y Divn. were actually directed to report for duty in the Madras Sorting Divn. The Class IV and Class III officials who had

but the fact remained that the rates in India were among the lowest in the world and the quantum of concessions the maximum. In the U.K., Canada and New Zealand there were no concessions for book packets or printed papers while in the U. S. A. only 2.5 percent concession was given. On the other hand, in India the concession was 75 percent.

New Source Of Revenue

Mr Shastri said the downward trend had to be carefully examined and necessary steps had to be taken to stop it. There was some division of traffic on account of enhancement of rates, from remunerative to unremunerative articles. He, therefore, considered it necessary that the Department should give thought to some sort of rationalisation and re-adjustments in rates. The Department could also explore new sources of revenue. He had come to know that in European countries additional money was realised by display of advertisement on telephone and telegraph posts. This could be adopted with good results in a vast country like India.

Training

Mr. Shastri emphasised the importance of training facilities for the staff and said that the Department should have at least one training centre in each circle and should arrange refresher courses on much better scale at lower levels. Non-residential training classes have already started in some circles and full residential schools would also be

by that time come to the office, knowing about this, abstained from work. In the evening, the Director Postal Services, Sri Burman, agreed to treat the R. O. Y. Divn. officials as not having joined duty at the Sorting Divn. and consider them on leave. On this, the work was resumed.

Negotiations were conducted further at Delhi with the D. D. G. Staff by the General Secretary of the R. M. S. Class IV Union Com. Om. P. Gupta and Com. S. Nagalingam, the Madras Circle President. Within a week of this, orders were issued telegraphically by D. G. cancelling the proposed transfers on 'Repatriation.' What was being rejected for years, was conceded to last.

We congratulate the R. M. S. workers on their Unity and victory.

established. A new school would be opened in Madras State very soon. Training facilities for engineering and other personnel had also to be expanded further, Mr. Shastri said.

Quarters and Office Buildings:

The Minister said that one of the serious complaints of the P. and T. Employees was about lack of quarters and office buildings. He had received very good co-operation from the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply but he (Mr. Shastri) had had to face some difficulties also. He had once before said in the House that it would be possible for the P. and T. department to spend all the money that had been allotted to it for construction of quarters and other buildings and he regretted to say now that it had not been possible to do so. It was therefore essential that at least for a short time it should be considered whether some other arrangement could be made. He did not want any new arrangement to be made permanently.

The P. and T. Department, Mr. Shastri said, was placed in such a position that its building programme was heavy and it was spread out throughout the country and it was not possible for one Executive Engineer to look after the building activities of the department properly. There was also the difficulty of proper maintenance. He was, therefore, suggesting whether it could be possible that each circle or a zone could be given a separate unit of engineers by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply for the next three years. The construction plan of the department was worth Rs. 16 crores and involved fairly heavy work. It pained him, Mr. Shastri said, that having got the money he was not able to provide adequate quarters for the staff. He would, therefore, appeal to his colleague, Mr. K. C. Reddy, that this matter deserved very careful consideration so that the department would be able to go ahead with the construction work.

Standing Committee

The Minister announced that the National Federation of P. and T. Employees had agreed to his proposals on the formation of a Standing Committee to follow up the decisions taken from time to time in discussions between the Federation and the Ministry. The Committee would consist of five members from the Federation and five



Sri S. K. Patil

Our New Minister for Communications
We look forward to him for the speedy fulfilment of the work started by his worthy predecessor, Sri Shastri; and succinctly given expression to by him in the Parliament during this year budget Debate.

from the Directorate with the Director-General as the Chairman.

The Minister said that for the present the Committee was being formed at the Centre and if the experiment succeeded it could be formed at Circle levels also.

National Welfare Board

Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri also announced the establishment of a National welfare Board, which would be presided over by Mr. Raj Bahadur, for encouraging and developing recreational and cultural activities among the postal employees. So far, the recreational activities in the department had been lagging behind compared to other Ministries. But it was hoped that the setting up of the National Welfare Board would be able to much more than what had been done in this regard. Members of the Board would be drawn from those who were really interested in sports and other recreational activities. He did not want to make it a political body

but the Federation would be asked to submit a panel, Mr Shastri said.

New Schemes,

Mr. Shastri said that his department was trying to introduce new methods in telephone and telegraph systems. The Telex system had been introduced between Bombay and Ahmedabad. Proposals had been drawn up for expansion of existing two Telex exchanges at Bombay and Ahmedabad by 80 lines and also for opening of new Telex exchanges at Calcutta, Delhi, and Madras. The trunk cable scheme connecting New Delhi and Calcutta was expected to be commissioned shortly. A new scheme for laying trunk cables between Calcutta and Bombay linking Kanpur, Lucknow and Patna had also been sanctioned to provide for a larger number of trunk routes. The trunk cables would be capable of providing 960 channels on the route.

Single Ticketing and Operator dialling

The Minister said that the system of 'single ticketing' and 'operator dialling' for putting through trunk calls were also being introduced. Efforts were being made to progressively eliminate delay caused by handling of a call by more than one operator by gradual introduction of 'single station ticketing' procedure by which only the originating station operator would have full control over a call. The operator at the

other end had simply to join the called subscriber required.

A beginning had already been made with the procedure of "operator dialling" on direct trunk routes. Under the procedure, an operator at New Delhi could by dialling over the telephone get access straight to a called subscriber in Bombay and put through a call. This procedure would result in expediting the disposal of all the trunk calls on the routes concerned. It was expected, Mr Shastri said, that by the end of the Second Five-Year plan period, the delays on trunk calls would have been brought down considerably.

The Minister informed the House that single ticketing had been introduced on 18 routes from Delhi, on all routes from Nagpur and seven routes from Calcutta.

Operator dialling had been introduced on seven routes, namely, New Delhi-Calcutta; New Delhi-Bombay; New Delhi-Lucknow; New Delhi-Kanpur; Bombay-Calcutta; Bombay-Poona and Kanpur-Lucknow.

Mr. Shastri said the experiment of delivering telegrams through scooters had recently started in Delhi and he hoped that it would be possible to extend it to other large cities like Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.

Mr. Lal Bahadur said there was a proposal to have mobile post offices on horse and camel backs to cater to remote villages in Rajasthan and in hilly areas.

Another Charge-Sheet Under Conduct Rules

We are publishing below another charge-sheet issued under Conduct Rules, this time by Senior S.P., Bangalore to Com. K. V. Sripada Rao, Clerk P. O., Bangalore. The application of unconstitutional rules against workers will have to be resolutely resisted by our members by all forms. We assure our whole hearted support in all such actions

—Editor

Office of the Senior Superintendent of Post offices, Bangalore. Memo No. B/1/Misc. Ch. II. dated at BG the 19-4-1958

1. In the issue "of Deccan Herald" dated 27th June 1957 published from Bangalore in the column "Readers' Forum", there appeared an article as given in the annexure to this memo, under the Caption "P & T Scandal" purported to have been written by Sri K. V. Sreepada Rao Vice President, Postal Union, Bangalore.

2. Sri K. V. Sreepada Rao is an official of the Bangalore TSO Group, working as Clerk at Bangalore HO. Even though he has given this article to the

Press as the Vice President of the Union, his responsibility as a Government servant for his action, cannot be overlooked. This action of Sri Sreepada Rao is contrary to the provisions of Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules.

3. Sri Sreepada Rao is therefore, charged with having violated the provisions of Rules 5 & 6 of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1955 and called upon to show cause why his increment should not be withheld for a period of 12 months if the charge levelled against him is proved. He should submit his defence within 10 days of the receipt of this memo, failing which ex-parte decision will be taken.

Sd/ Rahimuddin Ahmad.

E. S. Training Class. Orders have been received at the P.M.G.'s. Office to depute 33 trade-test Candidates for training at Jabalpur which is scheduled to commence on the 26th May 1958.

Letters to the Editor

What Price Temper?

Dear Comrade,

There are several occasions when one loses his temper, "legitimately". In our department, especially telephone branch, the occasions are one too many.

A lineman taps on a line - local or trunk - and calls the testing office. The operator is busy with her calls. If the testing office is not given, the lineman loses his temper. If the connection is insisted, the operator loses her temper. Both feel themselves right in doing so. Words are exchanged. Bitterness results.

Similar is the circumstance in almost all cases where dealings on phone occur. RSA while testing circuits with another RSA, a T. O. while passing calls to another T. O., an E. S. T. while dealing with T.T.M. Frayed tempers do a lot of havoc. If we are so conscious of our rights, can we not be conscious of others rights as well. A little amount of consideration on the part of every one will solve the problem. Each one is doing ones own duty. Let us not hasten to judge others. Tolerance is a great virtue.

I have come across a lot of scrimmages recently. Hence this letter. Will not our brothers and sisters "do it with a smile" and avoid unpleasantness and bitterness.

—SITA

About Tirupur Exchange

Dear Comrade,

Left with no alternative to draw the attention of the higher authorities, I am constrained to bring to the notice of the administration the rotten condition of the Telephone Exchange, Tirupur, through the columns of this journal.

As one enters the Exchange, his nose, if it is not smellproof, cannot escape the 'Evening-in-Paris' scent of the 18th century latrine.

Stepping into the front hall, one's eyes are dazzled to see the 400 line Multiple switch Boards, the installations incomplete for want of switch board cables. One's attention is also drawn to some voice from an adjoining room "Trunks on 4, 3 etc." This is the voice of the operator at the local switch board connecting a subscriber to

Trunk Record and Trunk Enquiries, as the Trunk Operator does not get the indication on the Record circuits properly, in spite of the local board operator grinding the Magneto hand-generator with all the force at his command. The indication lamp will come and go at its own will and pleasure. None can command it!

Crossing the front hall and entering into the adjoining room, one sees the local board operators juggling. There is a "Deevali Illumination" on the 1st local board and the operator cannot help but star at it with a dismal look. He has no cords to answer. Only 5 or 6 are in good condition, and they have been utilised. The second Board Operator also cannot help picking up, as his board is also in the same plight. The maintenance staff are helpless. They try their best to change the faulty cords, but when the fault is in the key circuits, which cannot be replaced with new ones, what can they do? The maintenance staff dare not touch the wiring of the Boards, as they look nothing but like spider webs. The slight touch of a nose-plier means the automatic disconnection of two other wires from their solderings.

The above miserable conditions have already been brought to the notice of the authorities, stressing the need for expediting the cutting over of the Multiple switch Boards but of no avail.

Tirupur Telephone Subscribers have already made themselves heroes in past, by making a mass complaint about the delay in getting their calls, and the staff are afraid now the same may happen again, which will neither be in the interest of the service nor the staff.

It is therefore high time, that the administration takes note of the above and tries to do something lest the department, will have to face an unpleasant situations which the staff as loyal workers, do not wish.

—A LOYAL WORKER

Cases of War Service Candidates.

Will the P. M. G. ascertain from the Divisions whether the concessions extended to war service candidates by Home Ministry in their Memorandum No. 16/3/50- C. S. dt. 19-3-51 and 30/4/46 Est (R) dt. (Contd. on page 15)

STANDING COMMITTEE

Director General, P & T, New Delhi issues orders

(D.G. P&T letter No. 11-1/58 Union dated 16-4-51)

The question of providing an adequate machinery at all levels for expeditious discussion and settlement of questions raised by the National Federation of P&T Employees and its affiliated unions have been under consideration of Government for some time past. It is the desire of Government that after the discussions, there should be an effective follow up in order to ensure an early implementation of the undertakings given and decisions arrived at.

2. The attainment of these objectives would necessarily place a restriction on the subjects to be discussed at various levels. It is, therefore, laid down as a guiding principle that the matter brought up for discussion with the authorities at all levels should generally be within the competence of the authority granting the interview and that matters which could be discussed and settled with the subordinate authorities should not be brought up before the superior authority unless the union has failed to secure satisfactory solution at the proper level.

3. Till recently there was no provision for the Minister or the Director General to hold regular periodical meetings with the Federation and the All-India Unions. Such meetings were held as and when necessary after the Federation or any of the affiliated union had submitted an agenda for discussion. It has now been decided by Government as an experimental measure that the Minister of state in the Ministry of Transport and Communications will normally meet the Federation once in every two months and the Director-General will normally have a common meeting with the Federation and its affiliated unions every month. In order to ensure that the meetings are held in a business like manner, it has been decided that the duration of the meeting with the Minister should not exceed two hours and the number of items to be discussed should be restricted to five. Similarly the duration of the meeting with the Director General should not exceed five hours and the number of items to be discussed should be restricted to twenty. If any of these twenty items cannot be discussed at the meeting they will be carried over to the next meeting within the prescribed twenty items for that meeting.

In view of the importance of the questions that are discussed with the Minister and the Director general and with a view to ensuring that at the top level, the matters discussed by the Federation or the unions receive adequate consideration and that after discussions there is expeditious follow up and implementation of the decisions taken, Government have decided that a standing committee for follow up and implementation of the decisions arrived at the meetings of the unions with the Minister and the Director General should be constituted with the following membership:

- (i) Director-General ... Chairman
- (ii) Deputy Director General
(Petition & Personal)... Vice Chairman
- (iii) Director staff ... Member
- (iv) Director of Establishment
and Planning ... Member
- (v) Deputy Chief Engineer (T)
... Member
- (vi) Five members to be nominated by
the National Federation of P&T
Employees.

The Assistant Secretary P&T Board will act as the Secretary of the Committee.

For attending meetings of this committee the representatives of the Federation will be allowed special casual leave out of the normal quota of 20 days per year but no T. A. will be admissible to them on this account.

5. At the level of Heads of Circles a meeting once in two months with the unions accredited to them has already been prescribed vide Director-General's letter No. SPA-251-25/55 dated 20-1-1956. The powers of these officers are quite extensive both on the postal and telegraph side and it is not possible to give in detail the subjects to be discussed at their level. It may, however, be stated that the matters which are within the competence of Divisional Officers and the other subordinate officers should not generally be discussed at the meeting held at the Circle level. Also the subjects which are outside the competence of Heads of Circles should not generally be brought up for discussion at that level e.g. revision of pay and allowances, curtailment of prescribed duty hours, revision of standards for sanction of establishments, change in regard

STANDING COMMITTEE

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to principles governing promotion, or regulating seniority and departure from the rules made by Government or the Director-General.

6. The subjects to be discussed at the circle level being varied and multifarious in nature and the number of unions accredited to the Heads of Circles being large, it is considered that the follow up and implementation of the decisions taken at the meetings should receive special attention. It has, therefore, been decided that in all circles there should be an officer specifically designated as 'Personnel Officer' who will *inter alia* be responsible for co-ordination of union work and for expeditious follow up of the undertakings given and for implementation of the decisions arrived at the meetings with the unions.

7. At the level of the Divisional Officers, namely, Superintendent of Post Offices and R.M.S. and Divisional Engineers Telegraphs etc. monthly meetings have already been prescribed with the unions vide Director-General's letter No. SPA-351-25/55 dated 20-1-56. The subjects to be discussed at such meetings must, however be limited to matters within the competence of the Divisional Officers such as revision of duty

hours including mitigation or elimination of split duty; alteration in distribution of work, regulation of holiday duties, accommodation for offices; provision of amenities and rotational transfers.

8. In order to ensure that the Divisional Officers continue to maintain personal touch with the unions and the problems raised by them, it has been decided that they will be personally responsible for the follow up of the undertaking given and for expeditious implementation of the decisions arrived at the meetings of the unions, though they may create a small unit in their offices to deal with the work.

9. In setting up a central committee and in providing for a special machinery in Circles for dealing with questions raised by the staff unions, the intention of Government is to improve the working conditions of the staff and to ensure prompt settlement of their grievances. The success of such continued effort should ultimately be reflected in the quality of service which the P&T Department render to the public and the Director-General hopes that all concerned will work for the furtherance of this common objective of the administration and the workers.

INTERVIEW WITH P. M. G.

Minutes of the interview granted by the P.M.G. to the All India Telegraph Engineering Employees' Union, Class III, Tanjore Branch at Tanjore on the 13-3-58.

1. Provision of a rest room and dormitory at Tanjore Telephone Exchange:

The Union referred to PMG's letter No. PLG/BPW/118 dated the 10-1-56, informing them that the question of providing dormitories etc. will be taken up as soon as the new exchange building was constructed, and desired that the old exchange building might be allotted to them for the purpose. The matter will be reviewed as soon as the carrier installation which is still functioning in the old exchange building is shifted. The question of constructing a

rest room and dormitory nearer the exchange will also be examined.

2. Allotment of the newly built staff quarters:

The matter is already under consideration. Allotment will be made according to the Government orders on the subject, irrespective of the Branch to which an official belongs.

3. Settlement of cases of arrears at the Divisional Office, Tiruchirapalli.

The Union furnished a list of unsettled items which are pending for a long time. This will be furnished to the DET with a D.O. for expeditious action and report.

(Contd. from page 13)

18-9-47 and subsequent orders have been made available to them. Several petitions preferred by the concerned individuals are still pending either at the Divisional or Circle levels. Such undue delay in settling genuine cases of staff in accordance with rules already available is very strange. A general enquiry initiated by the P. M. G. on

this will reveal the vast number of such cases. It is time that such an enquiry is done.

—EXSERVICE

(The Divisional Secretaries will please furnish to the Circle Secretary, a list of such cases with particulars as to the stage at which each is pending with the D. E. T. for further action—Editor.)

DEMANDS DAY 27th MARCH

PODUKKOTTAI

On the 27th March Pudukottai witnessed scenes the like of which it had never seen before. On that day all barriers were broken and the result was the inspiring sight of the P&T worker, the Municipal worker, the Textile worker, the Press worker and the tobacco worker and others marching side by side linking their arms. Slogans, not only about their demands but others, pertaining to National reconstruction were raised. Verily it was a proclamation that nothing can stop labour from taking its due place and having its share in the nation's activities. The Trade Unions that took part in the rally make a fine tally—Textile workers Union, Cauveri Mill, Pudukottai Textiles and Maha Ganapathi Mill Branches, Motor Workers, Tobacco Workers, Press, Hotel, Municipal, Central Government Employees, P&T Workers, Pottery Workers etc. The Charter of demands was presented to Shri Vasudevan R.D.O. There was a brief explanation of the demands and he promised to forward it to the proper quarters. Tilak Maidan, that evening, saw the biggest ever T.U. meeting that day which was presided over by Com. Ayyasamy of the Municipal Workers Union.

Sri V. Balakrishnan, ex-MLA and Com. Jagannathan of the National Federation of P&T Employees, addressed

Com. Umanath, President of Tiruchi Trade Union Council in his powerful address cited this coming together of all workers whether by brain or brawn as an instance of quantity changing into quality. He declared that labour shall triumph in getting its due share and play its part by the Nation and our people and the surest guarantee for that is the unity of the workers. In conclusion he exhorted all to guard this unity as the apple of their eyes. Com. Jagannathan recalled the last occasion when he extended the fraternal greetings of the P&T Workers to their textile comrades. The spirit of unity so evident during the time of P&T struggle has grown and within such a short time reached a stage when three of the Central Trade Union Organisations and Independent organisations like P&T could jointly demonstrate on the basis of a common charter. It is but the beginning. This is bound to release powerful currents which would definitely change the policies of the government as to benefit the common people and the workers.

May Day Committees constituted.

The Trade Unions at Pudukottai with memories of the successful conduct of Labour Demands Day still fresh have plunged themselves in the work of celebrating May Day. A meeting of the representatives was held in the office of the Tobacco Workers Union with Com. Jagannathan of the P&T Workers Federation in the Chair. A Committee had been constituted with Com. Sethuraman as the Convenor. It has been decided to invite prominent T. U. leaders.

MADRAS:

Madras City in recent past has not seen such a united expression of working class solidarity as the mammoth demonstration on the 27th March in response to the call of the All India United Action Committee and endorsed by the State Action Committee.

In the morning of 27th March 1958 from Loan Square started a procession of workers assembled from all parts of Madras City belonging to different Unions and proceeded to the Assembly Hall, Fort St. George. The processionists entered the assembly compound, where they were met by Coms. P. S. Chinnadurai, M.L.A. (PSP), Pakkirisamy Pillai, M.L.A. (Socialist), Palanisamy, M.L.A. (Comt), Anpazhagan, M.L.A. (DMK) and Ramasamy Mudaliar, M.L.A. (INDC). The Charter of demands was handed over to them for being presented to the Leader of the House, Madras State Assembly.

Later, within the assembly, Com. Chinnadurai raised the issue of the memorandum in the course of the debate. A point of order was raised by Sri C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister, about the legality of its presentation. The Speaker reserved his ruling for a later period. Subsequently, the Speaker ruled that the petition could not be taken cognisance of as it was not actually signed by the signatories.

In the evening several processions from different parts wended their way through the streets of Madras City to the Marina Beach (Tilak Ghat.) A huge public rally was held there presided over by Com. A. Kalayanasundaram, M.L.A. (Communist), Coms. R. Ramanathan, (UTUC), S. C. C. Anthony Pillai, (HMS), A. S. K. Iyengar (AITUC), G. Lakshmanan, (P. & T.), R. V. Krishnamurthy, (Banks) K. Ramamurthy (Central Govt. Employees) addressed the gathering.

DEMANDS DAY-MARCH 24TH-REPORT

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MADURAI

The "Labour Demands Day" was celebrated in Madurai successfully on 27th March, 1958.

The following Unions took part in the celebrations—

Madurai Textile Workers' Union,
Southern Railway Labour Union,
National Federation of P & T Employees,
The Federation of the Insurance Employees,
The Federation of the Bank Employees,
Madurai District Motor Labourers' Union,
General Workers' Union,
Municipal Employees' Union,
Printing & Binding Workers' Union,
Handloom Weavers' Union,
Jutka Workers' Union,
Southern Railways Employees' Union,
N. G. O's Union.

In the evening a very big procession with slogans was carried thro' the main streets of Madurai from the Town Hall Road and ended in the Tilak Square, where a public meeting was held.

Comrades A. Piramanathan of the NEPTE, Narayanan of Insurance Union, Munisamy of the Bank Employees' Union, M. N. Adhinakaran of the General Workers' Union, N. K. Bahuleyan of the HMS and A. Balasubramanian of the AITUC addressed the gathering.

The public meeting was well attended and ended at 10 p. m.

BANGALORE

Mass rally of all the workers of Bangalore to observe "DEMANDS DAY"—National Agitation Day—was held, in accordance with the call of the All India Trade Unions, Delhi, under the auspices of City Trade Unions, on 27—3—58 at Subhash Nagar, Bangalore.

Com. B. K. Sreeramiah (HMS—Electrical Workers Union) presided.

Comrade Krishnasamy (Bank Employees Union)
" Jayaraman (All India Railwaymen Federation, BG)
" M. Babu Rao (Confederation of Central Government Employees & NEPTE)
" Louis (President, H. A. L. Workers Union)
" Ramakrishna Rao (Hotel Workers Association)
" T. I. Madhavan (H. M. S.) } Convenors.
" Suryanarayana Rao (KPTUC of AITUC)

and several other trade union representatives spoke on the occasion. They all narrated in detail the significance of the Demands Day meeting and how the demands are just and reasonable.

All the Trade Unions in the City, except INTUC, took part in the deliberations.

At the outset two condolence resolutions expressing sympathy of the entire workers of Bangalore were passed.

(a) Death of Com. Demelow
(b) Death of Com. Pandyanachari of HAL—Died due to Police Firing.

Two minutes silence was also observed as a mark of respect.

Hon'ble Sri S. Nijalingappa, Chief Minister of Mysore was away from Head Quarters on the day of the meeting and hence the memorandum on the

Charter of Demands—14 points—could not be presented to him on the same day. It was resolved to wait on the Chief Minister next day and present him the memorandum.

Resolutions on the following demanding:—

- Open Enquiry on the Police Firing on H. A. L. Workers which has resulted in the death of Com. Pandyanachari;
- Early settlement of H.A.L. Workers dispute, etc. were unanimously passed.

The following Trade Unions and Associations actively participated in the successful conduct of the Demands Day.

- Confederation of Central Govt. Employees
- H. M. S.
- K. P. T. U. C. unit of A. I. T. U. C.
- NFTIE (BG Centre)
- Mysore State Bank Employees Union
- Life Insurance Corporation Employees Union
- Dakshin Rly. Workers Union of A.I.R.F.
- Minerva Mills workers Union
- Hindustan Machine Tools Employees Union
- H. A. L. Workers Union
- Bharat Electronics Employees Union
- Indian Telephone Industries Employees Union
- All India Defence Industries Employees Union ETC; ETC.

TRIVANDRUM

March 27th was observed in Trivandrum as Labour Demands Day with the cooperation of all trade unions. A representative committee was formed on the 23rd from all trade unions for the observance of the Day. Unions belonging to A.I.T.U.C., U.T.U.C., and H.M.S., N.F.P.T.E., Comptrollers Office N.G.O. Association, All India Bank Employees Association and the All India Insurance Employees Association participated. The convenor of the P & T Unions Co-ordinating Committee was elected as the Convenor of the Labour Day Celebration Committee.

Pamphlets in Malayalam were distributed among all workers explaining the purpose and significance of Labour Demands Day and giving the 14 Charter of demands. Wide publicity was given and explanatory general body meetings held in each branch or union. On the 27th evening a mammoth procession of above 5000 workers of all the Unions mentioned above was taken out, and paraded through the main roads of Trivandrum, carrying banners and placards containing the 14 demands in the charter. The procession ended in a public meeting at Pazhavangadi Maidan. The public meeting was presided over by Sri M. K. Vasudevan Pillai (President, Comptrollers' Office NGO Association.) The Speakers were Sarvasree B. Viswambharan (H. M. S.), K. Pankajakshan (U. T. U. C.), R. Sugethan M.L.A. (A. I. T. U. C.), Krishna Iyer (Insurance Employees Association) and Damodaran Nair (A. I. Bank Employees Association). Badges (Labour Demands Day) were worn by all workers throughout the Day. In the afternoon of 27th the Labour Demands Day celebration Committee members met the Chief Minister of Kerala and presented to him a Memorandum of the Charter of Demands. The public meeting approved the charter with an addition that Insurance Employees be given Bonus.

Thus the Day was observed in a grand manner and it was a big success.

Branch Notes

SALEM

A GB meeting was held on 17-2-58 with Com. T. K. Thambiraj in the chair. The Secretary reviewed the work of the branch during the period, Nov. '57 to Feb. '58, and explained the significance and the necessity of the 'Signature Campaign'. He appealed all employees to willingly take part and make the campaign a success. He appealed for a liberal contribution to the 'Building Fund.' Accepting the resignation of the Treasurer, the Secretary was authorised to hold this additional responsibility.

Members expressed their opinion regarding their dissatisfaction at the relationship then existing between the Supervisor and the staff.

The meeting concluded after vote of thanks.

POLLACHI

1. A group meeting was held on 2-3-58. Durairaj, UPT was unanimously elected as the Gp representative for the UPT Gp. for the remaining period of the year 57-58 vice Com. Thyagarajan transferred. Now members were enrolled.

2. As per the call of the Confederation of Central Govt. Employees and the NFPTE the P & T workers of POL went in procession round the important streets of Pollachi Town. A combined meeting was held afterwards under the presidentship of Com. S. Sama Rao. SPM POL when the amendments to the Govt. Servants' conduct rules were condemnend. The workers were urged to be more united till their chief goal is achieved. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Com. Vasudevan, Post Office, POL.

QUILON

A GB meeting was held on 28-3-58 under the presidentship of Com. P. T. Mamman. After reading the minutes of the previous meeting, discussions took place regarding the general principles in effecting general transfers. The discriminative treatment of TOs by Telegraph Supervisor Shri Velappan Pillai and Monitor E.O. Shkelton was discussed and in view of the assurance given to the Union by the SDOP, QN, on 27-3-1958, it was decided to watch further discrimination. It was decided to work according to standard if authorities fail to meet the demand to sanction additional posts of TOs and to provide increased trunk positions by extending the trunk room etc. After discussing the problem of Offg. mechanics and trained mechanics posted from MS Telephone Dist. it was decided to conduct the Annual Conference of the branch during the last week of April '58.

NAGERCOIL

The Annual General body meeting was held on 29-3-58 under the presidentship of Com. M. Subramania Pillai. The following office bearers were elected unanimously.

President:	Com. M. Subramania Pillai
Secretary:	" A. Padmanabha Pillai
Asst. Secretary:	" T. David
Treasurer:	" S. Nizamudeen
Working Committee Member:	" V. Swamy Dhes.

ERODE

A GB meeting was held on 5-4-58 with Com. C. Venkatesan in the chair.

After welcome address by Com. G. P. Naidu the Secretary presented the annual report of the branch together with the audited accounts for the period April '57 to March '58. The report mentioned some of the major activities and achievements of the union during the year and gave an analysis of the events that took place before and after the strike move.

The following office-bearers were elected for the coming year.

President:	Com. S. Periasamy
Vice-President:	" G. P. Naidu
Secretary:	" M. Nagarathinam
Treasurer:	" C. Balasubramanian
Committee Members:	" M. Varadharajan
	" S. Thannappan
	" George H. Philips
	" P. Natarajan
Auditor:	" S. S. Venkataraman

After Com. C. Venkataram stressed the need for unity and Co-operation among the members. Resolutions were passed protesting against the amendment to Govt. Servants' conduct Rules, opposing the move for feminisation of more telephone exchanges, and demanding the gradual de-feminisation of the already feminised exchanges, reiterating the demand for promotion to LSG. Monitors only by seniority—cum—fitness and demanding the grant of usual pay and allowance to the postmen promoted TOs during their training period.

Com. L. Narayanan, the outgoing Secretary, proposed a vote of thanks.

CANNANORE

The annual GB meeting was held on 6-4-58 Com. Rajan presiding. After the adoption of the annual report the following office bearers were unanimously elected.

President:	Com. P. M. Omer Koya
Secretary:	M. A. Rajan
Treasurer:	N. Pakkiri
Org. Secretary:	P. Narayanan

Resolution viewing with grave concern the acute shortage of staff in all the exchanges in Calicut Sub Division and strongly protesting against the recent transfers of 4 TOs to PNR curtailing joining time and TA advance and requesting the authorities to compensate them were passed.

The New President, Com. Omer Koya, stressed that the need of the hour was unity of the workers and exhorted the members to maintain perfect solidarity in the rank and file.

After vote of thanks the meeting concluded.

ALWAYE

The annual GB meeting was held on 7-4-58 with Com. K. N. P. Pillai, President, in the Chair. The following office bearers were elected unanimously for the year 1958-59

BRANCH NOTES

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President:	Com. K. N. P. Pillai
Secretary:	" A. K. Koshy
Asst. Secretary:	" Sudhakaran Pillai
Treasurer:	" T. N. K. Nair
Working Committee Members:	" Krishnakutty Kurup
	" T. A. K. Nair
	" K. J. Joseph
	" K. N. R. Pillai
	" Sreedharan

Auditor:

TIRUPUR

A GB meeting was held on 7-4-58 with Com. N. Nagendran, in the chair

Com. S. Jagannathan, Org. Secretary, Tamilnad, who visited the branch for organisation purpose, addressing the meeting dealt at length how the struggle of P & T workers is united with the struggle of the working class of the country. He also pointed out, while criticising the amendment to the Central Services Conduct Rules, how the workers are denied their legitimate trade Union rights and how the rules are contradictory to the fundamental rights of a citizen guaranteed by the constitution of the country. Appealing to the members to be united and build a strong trade Union, stressed the need for casting away the differences of policies and opinion, while the entire working class of the country is waging a fierce battle against bureaucracy and nepotism.

The following office bearers were elected unanimously for the year 58-59.

President:	Com. S. R. Venugopalan
Vice-President:	" N. Nagendran
Secretary:	" A. Radhakrishnan
Asst. Secretary:	" S. V. Narayanan
Treasurer:	" L. Dhiraviyam
Auditor:	" V. Saragothaman
Working Committee Members:	" J. D. Balakrishnan
	" K. Velappan

TUTICORIN

The annual GB meeting of the branch was held on 11-4-58 under the presidentship of Sri S. Xavier, B.A., B.L.,

President:	Com. S. Xavier, B.A., B.L.,
Vice-President:	" P. Davis
Secretary:	" R. G. Balraj
Asst. Secretary:	" V. Ramasamy
Treasurer:	" M. Antony P. Rayar
Working Committee Members:	" S. Perumal
	" S. Ratnam

Com. Ratnam will audit the accounts.

Resolutions were passed on the amendment to Govt. Servants' Conduct Rules, pay and allowances for the training period and T. A. in the case of officials promoted from other arms of service to Engg. branch as T.Os., supply of individual head-sets and lockers and other local problems.

The President and some of the members spoke on the occasion. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by the Secretary.

THENI

A GB meeting was held at Periakulam on 12-4-58 with Com. V. V. Guruswamy, President of the branch in the chair. Com. V. V. Subramaniam, T.Gp. Representative welcomed the gathering, the Secretary, Com. M. Andiappan, explained the activities of the branch. Many members spoke about the rights of the Trade Union movement while the president expressed his views about the undemocratic ways of the Department against its servants.

After resolutions protesting the undemocratic activities of the Govt. and urging solution of the problem of War Service candidates in the dept. were passed the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by the Secretary.

CUDDALORE

A group meeting was held on 28-12-57 Com. Dorairaj presided and other members participated.

MAYURAM

A meeting of all the P & T Staff presided by Com. G. K. Ramamoorthy was held on 1-1-58 in the Head Post Office. It was decided to observe Pay Boycott and send telegrams to the Prime Minister. Com. Ramamirtham also spoke

KUMBAKONAM

A GP meeting was held on 17-2-58. Com. Rajaraman was elected as the Gp. Representative.

VILLUPURAM

In a meeting held on 28-12-57 the necessity for Pay Boycott and the unity among all was emphasised by the speakers. Com. Ramakrishnan and Rangarajan were elected as Gp. representatives.

CHIDAMBARAM

At a meeting held on 2-1-58 in the Head Post Office, presided by Com. Ramachandram Pillai, the Secretary, Com. G. K. Ramamoorthy, spoke of the irresponsible treatment by the Govt. when workers agitate for a living wage.

On 2-2-58 a GB meeting was held. Coms. Jagan, Venkat Rao and Muthukrishnan formed the presidium. Com. Parthasarathy welcomed the gathering. Many important items were discussed and decisions taken. Com. Bashyam Secretary TNJ Branch attended by special invitation Later in the evening, an open session of all the P & T employees was held at the East Post Office with Com. Santhanakrishnan, Secretary, E. D. Branch, presiding. A good number of speakers spoke on the P & T fraternity and appreciated the Engg. members for the lead in Unity drive. Com. Bashyam (TNJ) also spoke and his humorous way of putting things earned for him a spontaneous appreciation.

FROM THE P. M. G.

Posts of R. S. As in the Circle.

No. ES. 449/5/III/K. W dated 16-4-1958.

With reference to your letter No. RSA/83-8 dated 27-3-58 I am furnishing below the information required by you:-

No. of RSAs in the Circle : Permanent 82
Temporary 42

Transfer of Branch Secretary, Cuddalore

No. STT/Union/Rlgs APMG (S)/Con/57 dated 17th April 1958.

With reference to your letter dated 20-3-1958, I am to state that Shri Ramamoorthy, Telephone Operator, has been transferred to Chidambaram under orders issued by the Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs on 8-3-58 as per his own representation dated 12-12-57 which was not revoked in time by the official. He is also reported to have joined the new post.

In case Shri Ramamoorthy still wants a retransfer to Cuddalore being the Branch Secretary of the Cuddalore Branch Union, he may take up the matter with the Divl. Engineer, Telegraphs, Tiruchirapalli.

Alleged breach of rules of recruitment to the cadre of T. Os.

No. Rectt. 56-57/MA Engg. Dn dated 9-4-58.

With reference to your letter No. TO/81-6 dated the 27-3-58, I am directed to enquire how the question raised by you falls within the scope of your Union and whether the interests of any members of your Union are affected.

Posting of H. G. Draughtsman in the Trichy Engg Dn with retrospective effect.

No. STE 863/EB dated 28-3-58.

With reference to item 18 of minutes of the meeting held by the Postmaster-General with your Union on 24-10-57, I have to inform you that the case was reconsidered and it has been decided, not to revise the orders already issued.

Construction of Quarters for staff at Bangalore monitoring station compound, Bangalore.

No. Plg/BPW-72 dated at Madras-2, the 17th April 58.

Ref: Your letter No. BG(R) 5-1 dated 3/4/58.

The construction of staff quarters on the Wireless Monitoring Station site is already under examination. The Central P. W. D. has been addressed to prepare the preliminary estimates, with a view to approach the Directorate for sanction to this project.

Non drawal of Pay and Allowances to Shri Nagarathnam, RSA, Villupuram.

No. SA/F/537 dated 8th April 1958.

Ref: Your letter No. G/122 dated 4-1-58 and 26-3-58.

With reference to your letters cited above I am directed to state that this is an individual case which the Union is precluded from taking up. I may, however, state that there were two arrear bills pending to be disbursed to this official one amounting to Rs. 31.25 has been paid to him during February 58 and the other one for 19.60 has been sent to the Audit for pre authorisation. On receipt, the same will be paid to the official.

Fixation of Pay of Sri M. R. Vasudevan, Mechanic.

No. SA/F/180 dated 11-4-58.

Ref: Your letter N. Mech. 77/5 dated 3-4-58.

The case is still under correspondence with the Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs, Bombay East Division. I may inform you that the case is being vigorously pursued at every stage for its final settlement.

Confirmation of temporary posts as per Director-General Posts and Telegraphs letter No 43-3-57/PE dated 28-6-57.

No. EM/456/E/MA dated 11-4-58.

Ref: Your letter No. G. 136 dated 13-3-58.

Action has been taken for confirmation of posts in the various cadres in all the seven Engg. Divisions except two divisions which are under issue.

Fixation of pay of Shri K. Govindan Asari.

No. SA/F/569 dated 12-4-58.

Ref: Your letter No. QN/59-4 dated the 31-3-58.

The final orders of the Director-General, P & T New Delhi have already been received during November 1957 and have also been communicated to the Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs Trivandrum for refixing the pay of the official. The pay of the official had also been finally refixed by the Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs, Trivandrum during January 1958 in consultation with the Deputy Accountant-General, P & T Madras.

Non-Payment of Messenger and late fee bills of Punalur PCO.

No. K 114/EN dated 2nd April '58.

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. QN/59-1 dated 4-3-58 and to inform you that the matter has been referred to Accounts Officer, Telephone Revenue, Madras for necessary action and early payment of the pending Bills which are pending for a very long time.

Non Payment of LF and MF Bills of Punalur PCO.

From the Accounts Officer, Telephone Revenue Accounting Branch, Madras-2, No. TC 406/5/PNR/50 dated 8-4-58.

Ref: PMG MS No. K 114/EN dated 2-4-58 addressed to you and copied to this office.

In continuation of P M G Madras letter under reference I am to state that late fee Bills upto March '57 and Messenger fee bills upto April '57 have already been passed for payment and sent to DET Trivandrum for effecting payment. The late fee and messenger fee bills from May '57 onwards will be verified and sent to DET Trivandrum very early please.

Ad-hoc sanction of 3 RSAs for Madras VFT Station.

No. ES. 659/E dated 7-4-58.

Ref: Your letter No. RSA/83-9 dated 22-1-1958
With reference to your letter No. cited above, I have to state that the Director General's orders are still awaited. He has since been reminded in the matter.

Categorisation of post of Revenue Suptd-ex-state telephone as LSG.

No. SAE/440/EB dated 5th April '58.

Ref: Your letter No. TVM/57-1 dated 4-3-58.

TO THE P. M. G.

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With reference to your letter cited above, I write to inform you that the decision of the DG, P & T New Delhi, is awaited. A further communication will follow.

Categorisation of 5 Work Estt. TOs at Trivandrum.

No. STE 2663/EB dated, MS-2, the 29th March '58.

Ref: Your letter No. TO/81-4 dated 13-3-58.

With reference to your letter cited above I write to inform you that the Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs, Trivandrum has been addressed to intimate the present position of the case. On receipt of his reply, a further communication will follow.

Training of departmental candidates selected to the cadre of Mechanics.

No. STB. II MECH. REGL. TRG. CL. VI dated 24th March 1958.

Ref: Your letter No. MS/22-1 dated the 4-3-58.

In the mechanics' recruitment examination held in 1955, 8 departmental candidates were selected for

appointment as mechanics. Out of these eight candidates, two belong to telephone branch, five belong to telegraph and one to carrier branch. The above mentioned candidates are departmental qualified candidates and they are required to be trained only in theory and that too for the branch in which they have already been working in the department—vide rule 19(e) of the Mechanics Recruitment Rules.

The theoretical training class for Telegraph and Carrier Mechanics are conducted at Jabalpur. No intimation regarding the opening of class for the purpose mentioned above has so far been received from the D.G., P & T ND. He has also been apprised of the position and on hearing from him in the matter, necessary action will be taken to send the six mechanic candidates of the Telegraph and Carrier Branches for training.

The two mechanics who, it is mentioned in your letter under reference; have been appointed, belong to Phonee Branch, the classes for which branch are conducted at R. T. T. C. Centre, Madras-18.

TO THE P. M. G. MADRAS

1. No. QN/59-1 dated 20-3-58.
Death of mazdoors due to electrocution while restoring communications in TVM Engg. Divn.

2. MR/14-3 dated 20-3-58.
Shifting of Mangalore Radio Transmitting Stn. to the new Deptl. building.

3. CDL/25-1 dated 20-3-58.
Transfer of Branch Secretary CDL Branch.

4. No. Mech/77-4 dated 23/27-3-58.
Sanction of justified posts of S. G. Mechanics.

5. No. RSA/83-4 dated 26-3-58.
Grant of HRA to RSAs recruited through Trade Test 1950 and recruitment examination 1951.

6. No. G/122 dated 26-3-58.
Non drawal of Pay & Allowances to Sri Nagarathnam, RSA, VLU.

7. No. TO/81-8 dated 26-3-58.
Posting of L.S.G. Monitors.

8. No. TO/81-6 dated 27-3-58.
Breach of rules of recruitment to the cadre of T. Os.

9. No. TO/81-3 dated 26-3-58.
Absorption of NDTOs.

10. No. TO/81-4 dated 26-3-58.
Categorisation of 5 Work Estt TOs at TVM.

11. No. Mech/77-2 dated 27-3-58.
Absorption of unqualified mechanics in the regular cadre.

12. No. RSA/83-8 dated 27-3-58.
Confirmation of RSAs.

13. No. TO/81-6 dated 27-3-58.
Feminisation of Exchanges.

14. No. RSA/83-8 dated 27-3-58.
Posts of RSAs in the Circle.

15. No. QN/59-4 dated 31-3-58.
Fixation of Pay of Sri K. Govindan Asari. Monitor TVM Engg. Dn.

16. MA/39-1 dated 31-3-58.
Shifting of the office of the DET, Madurai.

17. No. ES/85-4 dated 31-3-58.
Rotational transfer ESs.

18. No. G/136 dated 31-3-58.
Confirmation of Posts in the Clerical cadre in the Engg. Dns. as per DG's letter No. 43-3-57. PE dated 28-6-57.

19. No. ALY/62-1 dated 31-3-58.
Death of two mazdoors by electrocution.

20. No. MECH/77-2 dated 31-3-58.
Reversion of Mechanics in the Dns, consequent on posting of trained hands.

21. G/117 dated 31-3-58.
Repatriation of Staff.

22. TNJ/52 dated 3-4-58.
Provision of Rest room and dormitory for TNJ Exchange.

23. G/135 dated 3-4-58.
Fixation of pay of Sri M. V. Raghuram offg. RSA. MS Carr. Stn.

24. Mech/77-5 dated 3-4-58.
Fixation of Pay and drawal of arrears of Sri. P. K. Thomas, Mech, ENK.

25. TO/81-9 dated 3-4-58.
Sanction of additional TOs at PY, VLU, Mayavaram.

26. G/119-3 dated 3-4-58.
Case of Sri Jacob Paul, Lorry Driver, Kottayam for confirmation.
27. G-PI/82-6 dated 3-4-58.
Circulation of "Hand book of Elementary Telegraphy Part I and Telephony Part I.
28. CL/78-5 dated 3-4-58.
Sanction of additional Clerical Staff to DET's office, CBT and BG.
29. G/119-3 dated 3-4-58.
Fixation of Pay of some ex-State Phone Inspectors in TVM Engg. Dn.
30. MA/40-1 dated 3-4-58.
Non-payment of HRA & CA for Telephone Operator trainees.
31. MA/40-1 dated 3-4-58 (to CTS. MS.)
Supply of Cabin Fans to MA TK Exge.
32. MA/40-1 dated 3-4-58 (to CTS MS.)
Individual head-sets for Telephone Operators.
33. Meh/77-5 dated 3-4-58.
Fixation of Pay and drawal of arrears of increment to Sri M. R. Vasudovan Mech. PGT.
34. BG (R)/5-1 dated 3-4-58.
Provision of Transport to Wireless Staff at BG Monitoring Station.
35. ES/85-4 dated 3-4-58.
Posting of officials qualified in the Trade test in the vacancies in MS Circle.
36. BG (R)/5-1 dated 3-4-58.
Construction of Quarters for Staff at BG.
37. RSA/83-9 dated 11-4-58.
Sanction of additional RSAs for ENK Repeater Station.
38. TO/81-9 dated 11-4-58.
Additional posts of Telephone Operators and Mointors for QN Exge. Sanction of.
39. QN/59-3 dated 11-4-58.
Extension to QN Trunk Exchange.
40. G/108 dated 12-4-58.
Creation of additional sub divisions in the Circle.
41. MRS/24-2 dated 11-4-58.
Provision of dormitory and Dining Room. New Carr. Stn. MS.
42. MRS/24-1 dated 11-4-58.
Standby Engine Alternator at Carrier Station MS. Installation of.
43. ES/85-5 dated 11-4-58.
Sanction of additional post of ES. carr. MS. Carr. Station.
44. MA/45-2 dated 11-4-58.
Tallakulam Exge-Provision of separate lavatory for ladies.
45. ES/85-8 dated 11-4-58.
Rotational Transfers-Engg. Supervisors.
46. RSA/83-9 dated 11-4-48.
Sanction of RSAs to Tiruppur and Tinnevely Repeater Stations.
47. ES/85-4 dated 11-4-58.
Reversion of Telegraph Supervisors.
48. G/136 (2) dated 14-4-58.
Confirmation of L. S. G. Clerks in Engg. Arm.
49. BG (R)/5-1 dated 14-4-58.
Water facilities at the new premises of BG Wireless Monitoring Stn.
50. G/136 (1) dated 14-4-58.
Issue of quasi permanency certificates to Wireless Operators in MS Circle.
51. G/117 dated 14-4-58.
Repatriation of staff from TRC Engg Dn.
52. TO/81-5 dated 17-4-58.
Appointment of Lady Welfare Superintendents—preference to deptl. candidates.
53. CL/78-4 dated 17-4-58.
Confirmation examination for Clerks.
54. ES/85-5 (MS) dated 17-4-58.
Augmentation of staff in CTO. MS.
55. G/121 (2) dated 17-4-58.
Construction of P & T Quarters at ALP.
56. BG (R)/5-1 (1) dated 17-4-58.
Non receipt of D.G's Wireless circulars by Wireless Monitoring Station, BG.
57. BG (R)/5-1 (2) dated 17-4-58.
Refund of furniture rebate to certain Wireless Operators in MS. Circle.
58. G/121 dated 17-4-58.
New Building construction at Alwaye.
59. MRS/24-1 dated 21-4-58.
Non drawal of arrears of increment of Sri Sankaran, Mechanic.
60. TO/81-6 dated 21-4-58.
Alleged breach of rules of recruitment to the cadre of Telephone Operators.
61. MRS/24-4 dated 21-4-58.
Confirmation of Sri R. G. Rajan, Mech.
62. G/III dated 21-4-58.
Disposal of individual petitions re: fixation of seniority.
63. G/117 dated 21-4-58.
Repatriation of staff from Engg. Dns.
64. MRS/24-3 dated 21-4-58 (to PMG Bihar Circle.)
Non payment of arrears of pay to Sri G. M. Andrews ES.

LIST OF NON REIMBURSABLE MEDICINES

Protinal
Phosphotone
Protinules
Phenyle
Prenatal Capsules
Procarsinol
Pabium Meads
Plaster Sticking
Penicillin Lozenges
Protovine
Protinules

Q. A. Aspirin Tablets
Quaker Oats
Qumaresh

Radiana Dressin
Radian B Liniment
Radium Buxten Crystal Salts
Ran's Anisaka Pills
Rankin's Ointment
Rasapails (Dr) Female Pills
Raymonds
Reade's Express Powders
Egyptial salve
Red Bank (Bisrauthated) Magnesia
Cream of Mag. Tablets
Redux Herbal Tea
Regulletts
Rexall Bisma Rex Antacid Powder
Rexal Bone and Nerve Liniment
Rexall Orderlies
Rheumagic Oils
Rheumogen
Rhuaka Sweet Digestive Syrup
Rinxe Capsules
Roberts' Croupine
Roche's Embrocation
Rooke's (Dr) Oriental Pills
Ry-Mari Compound
Roboleine
Radio-Malt
Rectified Spirit
Rubber Tubing
Rubber Sheeting
Red Bone Marrow, Glycerin
Extract Glanoids
Red Bon Marrow Powder Glands
Retarcycle Tablets
Tiedine Capsules
Roban, Ampoules & Tablets
Rutin Tablets
A & H Tablets
B. D. H.
Tablets PD & Co (CT No. 824)
Red Adhesive
Renita
Rose water
Raido Benco
Rasarna
Rose-Hip LES
Rose's Squashes & Diabetic Squashes
Robrax
Rayon Oiled
Radiostolem
Radigubil water
Robinson's Leman Barley

'S'

S. N. A. Tablets
Sal Alterata
Sal Hepatica
Salfoin Hay Fever Salve
Samona Tablets No. 1
Sanacine Cough Mixture
Sanderson's Cough Linctus
Sanderson's Throat Specific
Sagrol
Schiffmann's (Dr. R) Asthmador
Scott's (Dr) Billious & Liver Pills
Scott's Emulsion
Sedax
Semprilin Petroleum Emulsion
Serocalcin Tablets
Seven Seas Cod Liver Oil Capsules
Oil

Sacchrine Tablets
Salt Substitutes
Saxin
Separated Milk Food
Special Half Cream milk food
Shampoos
Shaving Creams
Shaving soaps
Shaving Sticks
Skin Lotions
Soaps
Sanimalt
Syrup of Figs
Heptoglobin
Hemoglobin
Ephydonal
Kasabin
Liver
Thioikal
Olinadex
Neogadins
Neogyid
Irosol
Sirolin (Roche)
Sanitary Towels
Sueretes Throat Pastilles
Syringe
Safety Pins
Sulphur Bitter
Spirit
Spirit Rectified
Methylated
Sardex
Stomhepar
Sdz. Pills
Similac
S. Pists
Sugar
Side Entrain Tablets
Strength Oval (Tablets)
Sioliat
Siovina
Siocitrats
Siblin
Saccharin
Silvikrin pure
Silvikrin Hair Tonic
Silviserin Hair Tonic
Suphe Caicelated New Gone
Salidex (superb)
Sueryl
Slean Ointment
Suerets

Sinamenine
 Sanatogen
 Savory and Moore Foods
 Sister Laura's Food
 Slippery Elm Foods
 Strained Foods, e.g. Heins & Scotts
 Schum Solution
 Sodicyl Tablets
 Sedulon Syrup
 Solsum suspension
 Sobisminol Capsules
 Soderseine Solution
 Sodium Sulphocyanate Elixir No. 206
 Spleen (Pabrn) Amps and Tabs.
 Spleen (Pabrn)
 Stoniform, Dusting Powder, Lotion
 Ointments and Tablets
 Stilboestral spray
 Styptol Tablets
 Sublamine Ophthalmic Ointment Cusi
 S. U. M. 36 and 453 Ampoules
 S. U. P. 36 ampoules
 Suprarnal Cortex Tablets (Pabrn)
 Suprarnal Gland Palationoids
 Suprarnal whole Gland (Tabs) (Pabrn)
 Suprarenalin, Tabs for Oral Use Glancid
 Sutheen P
 Synthalin B Tablets
 Synthabilin
 Supositious Ilicensia
 Sandalwood Oil
 Side Cordial
 Scalp Lotion
 Salt Andrew's Liver
 Salt Enos Fruit
 Salt Kruschen
 Soda water
 Shadforters
 Shadphos Tablets
 Shurzine Antiseptic Ointment
 Silk Obesity Tablets
 Silk Astha Tablets
 Simodine
 Simpson Blood Cleanser (Iodised)
 Simpson Iodine Ointment
 Simpson Iodolock Iodine Locket Duffuser
 Simpson's Bilblain
 Simpson Seaweed & Celery Tablets
 Singleton's Eye Ointment
 Sloan's Liminment
 Smedley's paste
 Snow fire ointment
 Snow fire healing tablets
 Songo
 Soto Antiseptic Mouth wash Tabs
 Sphagnol Lotion
 St. Jacob's Liniment
 St. James's Balm
 Steedman's soothing Powders
 Stemool
 Sudex Senna Pods
 Sulphaqua
 Sulpholine Lotion
 Supavite Capsules
 Surama Medicated Cigarettes
 Sure ShielFruits Laxatives
 " Glycerin of Thymol Pastilles
 " Iodised Throat Lozenges
 Surgaseptic
 Suthers' Chrono—Thermal composition Essence
 Sweeting's toothache Elixir
 Syrup Hypoal

Sani Vidol
 Sandostion Effervescent Tabs
 T
 Trefriow water
 Tamar Indian Laxative Fruit Lozenges
 Taylor's Seven Oils
 T. C. P.
 T. C. P. Bronchial Antidote
 T. C. P. Medium Ointment
 T. C. P. Throat Pastilles
 Teasdale's Chlorodyne
 Teddyleax
 Tersalts
 Thermogens Medicated wadding
 Thermogene Vapour Rub
 Towle's Chlorodyne
 Towle's Pills
 Trilax Tablets
 Towle's Pink Pills
 Tudor William's Balsam of Money
 Tussicon Pectoral Cough Elixir
 Talcum Powder
 Tonoferron
 Thermometer
 Throat Pastilles
 Taxel
 Tata Colligne
 Teats
 Tephesco
 Talco Dusting Powder
 Threptin
 Tooth Paste
 Tonic Iden
 Tono
 Tuseiopil
 Towels Sanitary
 Tapes Adhesive
 T. Powder
 Tenophosphan Fortius
 Taverol
 Toniazol
 Termex
 Tonic
 Til Oil Tonozone
 Tonozone
 Tonoplex
 Tannalbin Tablets
 Tar Cream, Colourless
 Teropterin Ampoules
 Testacoids (Reed and Carnick)
 Tests (Pabrn) Amps. & Tabs
 Tests Forte Amps (Pabrn)
 Tho-histamine
 Thionaiodine Ampoules
 Thymus (Pabrn) Amps. and Tabs
 Thymus Palationoids
 Thiaodacaine Amps. Midy
 Tiodine (Cognet)
 Tonoxilin Amps. Female and Male
 Trilactine Tablets
 Torbet Lactice Oats
 Trufood Fellow on food
 " Humanised Milk
 " Prosol
 " Secway
 Toothpaste
 Toothpowders
 Talcum Powders
 Tonic Indon
 Tonophosphon
 Tonikum
 Tonivit

Memorandum for Discussion with P.M.G. in May 58

No. G/91, dated, Madras-2, the 14th April 1958

I. Posting of Selection Grade Mechanics in Madras Circle.

My letter to the Directors, Telegraphs, No. Mech/77-4 dated 11-3-57 have not even been acknowledged, not to speak of reply being given to the points raised therein or taking action on them.

For the last five years or more the promotion of Mechanics to Selection Grade has not been made in this Circle. This is inspite of persistent representation being made and repeated interviews being conducted with the P.M.G. and the Directors, Telegraphs and the matter explained times without number.

As per the existing orders Selection Grade posts in the Grade of mechanics to the extent of 20% of the total confirmed posts in the time scale have to be created and 50% filled by seniority and the remaining 50% by holding a practical examination among permanent officials with 5 years service.

In 1955 when representations were made it was told that new item allotments have to come from D.G. When the new item allotments actually came, it was found 20% of the posts could not be calculated as the Circle office had not confirmed all the eligible posts of time scale mechanics in the Circle as per the D.G's current orders.

When the confirmation of posts was done and actual proposals for the creation of S.G. posts were made, it was found that the confirmation of all eligible officials against these posts was not made. After this was done action was taken to announce a date for the examination. Then it was discovered that the officials for filling the 50% by seniority have to be approved and eliminated first.

We pointed out the necessity to prepare the Circle gradation list of mechanics to begin with, or at least to call for the seniority list of a few, say ten or twenty officials in each division and then prepare the Circle Seniority List of all those officials. Action taken to obtain these lists from Divisional Engineers was not satisfactory since the matter dragged on for months and months.

In the meantime we heard that some promotions were already given in some divisions. This, we understood, was done without knowing the rulings on the subject. These orders were subsequently revised.

Again we found that the examination was announced before the seniority list was prepared. We made further representations to prepare the list. We were told that some D. Es. T. have not yet sent the lists.

In the meantime fresh orders from D.G. P & T for confirming additional posts had come.

Thus it has taken six years and still there seems to be no prospect of a settlement of this case. Lack of co-ordination between one section of the Circle office and another, between the Circle office and Division, failure to watch the case at the Circle level with interest and concern, lack of proper knowledge about rulings on the subject are highlighted in this. Positive action should be taken to eliminate these defects in the machinery.

To settle the problem, the following action has to be taken:

- (1) First of all prepare the Circle Gradation list of all Mechanics in the Circle in the various branches. It is understood that Phones' Mechanics list is not yet prepared. This has to be done only at the Circle office on the same lines as list of other cadres were prepared.
- (2) 20% of the confirmed posts in the time scale in the Circle should be simultaneously calculated for conversion as Selection Grade.
- (3) As per Circle seniority from the list prepared the mechanics should be approved for posting against 50% of seniority quota and they should be appointed.
- (4) Action should be taken to announce and conduct an examination and select the 50% by merit.

These should be done quickly and within a prescribed time limit.

II. Repatriation:

The following letters have been written by me on this subject:

G/117 dated 30-11-57 addressed to the P. M. G.

G/117 dated 30-11-57 addressed to Sri C. J. Clement.

and G/117 dated 31-3-58 addressed to P. M. G.

In several interviews I have explained the position and requested for action.

I have not been given even acknowledgments of these letters.

The Divisional Engineers did not take action during all these years of successive reorganisations of divisions to prepare complete lists of officials in various cadres entitled to repatriation, exchange them with the lists of other Divisional Engineers and coordinate the lists for receiving and transferring officials from various divisions. Even at present it is understood that DET, Trichur, has not included several officials in his list. This can be verified if his list is produced and checked.

The Circle office has also failed to effect this coordination as among the various divisions.

There have been violations of D-G's rulings about non recruitment of personnel in the Divisions to which repatriates are due. In many cases new appointments have been going on. The Circle office has allotted new recruits to such divisions.

Such instances of new appointments have continued even after we have pointed out this.

The DET, Trichur, who has to start in this respect has not taken action to train new hands allotted to him, so as to appoint them as soon as possible and relieve the officials awaiting repatriation.

In the meantime special considerations were shown to a few individuals in the matter of transfers while their colleagues were waiting.

Even though there are orders of D.G. to the effect that all vacancies occurring in a division to which repatriates are due should be reserved for them, in Madras division one or two vacancies were given to others.

Against D.G.'s orders Rule 38 transfers were also given from Madras division, thus frustrating the chances of repatriates.

These matters must be looked into and revised.

The process of repatriation must also be put on a regular basis by effecting coordination among all the D.Es and ensuring that existing orders of D.G. are honoured and not violated, and special considerations not shown to individuals.

III. Confirmation:

(A) R.S.As subsequent to 8th batch:

This question of confirmation has been taken up at almost all interviews. My letter RSA/83-8 dated 31-10-57 had pointed out that the D.G.'s orders No. 385-42/56 NCG dated 24-10-57 were already received after protracted correspondence and painful waiting for years. But still a reply was given that the matter is taken up with D.G. My letter No. RSA/83-8 dated 30-12-57 asking for particulars as to what point is referred to D.G. is still not replied in spite of the lapse of four months.

In fact there is no point for reference to D.G. as his orders are quite clear. Many of the officials concerned throughout these years, due to administrative delay for years, have been suffering monetary cuts in their pay since most of them are officiating as Telegraph Supervisors and due to their not being confirmed as R.S.As are started only at the minimum of the T.S.'s scale which is far less than the pay they were drawing as RSAs!

Since the orders of D.G. are clear (and this being a Circle cadre the particulars of these officials must be available in the Circle office itself) further delay in effecting confirmation is not understood. Positive action may be taken to effect the confirmations.

(B) L.S.G. Clerks:

Please refer to my letter G. 136 dated 19-10-57 regarding confirmation of LSG Clerks. Even though six months have elapsed since my representation no action has been taken. The case is pending even much earlier.

(C) Confirmation of posts in all grades in Engineering Divisions as per DG's latest orders (No 43-3-57 PE dated 21-6-57).

Re: My letter No. G/136 dated 13-3-58 and No. G/136 dated 31-3-58.

This issue was raised by me at the bi-monthly meeting on 24-10-56, item 2. It was stated that expeditious action will be taken. But still we understand that Clerical posts have not been confirmed. While action may be taken to issue all pending confirmation orders of posts, it is requested that the Union may be furnished with the number of posts in each cadre and in each division, that are being confirmed as per the above orders.

IV. Filling Up Officiating Posts Of Mechanics In Trivandrum Division:

My letter No. Mech/77-2 dated 31-3-58.

The Divisional Engineer, Trivandrum, has not promoted the reverted mechanics even though fourteen posts have been sanctioned early this year for Trivandrum Division. He may be instructed to fill up the posts by officiating arrangements as done in other divisions by those who were reverted.

V. Death of two workers in Trichur and Trivandrum divisions while restoring communications on telephone lines.

Re: My letter No. QN/59-3 dated 20-3-58 and ALY/32-1 dated 31-3-58.

The incidents have highlighted the immediate need for a thorough inspection of all such lines in the two divisions about electrical induction. It is regretted that the matter is being delayed still.

VI. Upgrading of the post of draughtsman in Trichy Division:

The case was discussed at bi-monthly meeting on 24-10-57. It was not the decision at that meeting that upgrading of the post with retrospective effect was not permissible. On the other hand the P. M. G. expressed the feeling that if it will result in benefit to the official it could be done. Subsequently I was asked in a letter to quote an instance to show that the other Director, Telegraphs, had followed a different policy with regard to giving effect to the higher grade posts of mechanics. This was done. But finally without explaining what reconsideration was done as a result of the discussion at the interview and without intimating any reasons the case was rejected. It is not known whether the promised reconsideration by the P.M.G. did take place.

VII. Categorisation of some ex-State T.Os as LM T.Os

Re: My letter No. T.O. 81/4 dated 8-4-57 & Your No. STE 2663/EB dated 29-3-58.

VIII. Filling up of 2/3 quota of L. S. G. Monitor in this Circle.

Inordinate delay has been noticed in implementing the orders. Whereas in the Postal section with comparatively a very large number of posts to be filled up, a much larger number of officials to be considered and a number of Superintendents of Post offices to be consulted, the orders were implemented in January '58, in the case of Engineering divisions with a smaller number of officials and fewer number of posts to be filled up, with only seven Divisional offices to be consulted, the orders still remain unimplemented. This creates feeling of discontentment & injustice being done since the officials are denied their and higher pay even though the posts are already upgraded and they are working against those higher grade posts discharging the same duties.

In this connection I may point out that the question of L.S.G. Monitors' postings in this Circle (against the existing posts prior to the latest orders of upgrading) was itself not done for years in spite of my representations and interviews.

Why orders are not being implemented in the Engg. section on the same lines as in other sections may be enquired into and remedial action taken to set right matters. We may also be informed as to what are the causes for such state of affairs.

XI. Rotational Transfer of Engineering Supervisors.

Re: My letter No. ES/84-4 dated 13-11-57. ES/85-4 dated 4-3-58. ES/85-4 dated 31-3-58.

The above letters have not been acknowledged even. I have subsequently sent another letter ES/85-8 dated 11-4-58 inviting your attention to D.G.'s letter No. 42-76/57 NCG dated 12-3-58 and his subsequent letter No. 42-76/57 NCG dated 15-3-58 regarding application of rotational transfer to the Circle Service Engineering Supervisors in REM's organisation, C.T.S., Telephone Districts etc., and also to General Service E.Ss. This may please be done.

NEWS ITEMS

National Income Of India

The national income of India, expressed in terms of current prices, stood at Rs. 11,410 crores in 1956-57 and Rs. 9,990 crores in 1955-56 or Rs. 1,800 crores and Rs. 380 crores higher than the 1954-55 level, it is announced by the Cabinet Secretariat.

The per capita income at current prices correspondingly rose from Rs. 254.2 in 1954-55 to Rs. 260.8 in 1955-56 and Rs. 294.3 in 1956-57.

The larger increase at current prices than at constant prices was due to price changes, it is explained.

Rise In Wages Demanded

An immediate increase of 15 percent in the current wages of workers in all industries as an interim step pending finalisation of a wage policy by the Government of India was urged when a deputation of Hind Mazdoor Sabha and the All-India Trade Union Congress called on the Prime Minister at New Delhi on 1st April 1958.

After some discussion, Mr. Nehru is reported to have agreed to pass on the representation to the Union Minister of Labour for such action as is necessary.

The deputation consisted of Mr. S. C. C. Anthony Pillai and Mr. R. C. Pradhan, President and Secretary respectively of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, and Mrs. Parvathi Krishnan and Mr. K. T. K. Thangamani, Members of Parliament, and Vice-President and Secretary respectively of the All-India Trade Union Congress.

The deputationists are reported to have pointed out that discontent was growing among all sectors of the working class as a result of rising prices in the last 15 months. The Government had not so far enunciated any firm wage policy to correct these trends. Although a wage commission was promised under the Second Five-Year Plan, this would take some time as a wage census was considered necessary before appointing a commission. In the circumstances, the deputationists requested the Government to expedite a decision on an interim increase in the wages of workers in all industries.

The deputationists are also reported to have handed over to the Prime Minister a charter of demands, which was endorsed at labour rallies on Mar. 27, 1958. The charter urged merger of dearness allowance with the basic wage and linking it with the cost of living index, introduction of price controls

of essential commodities and taking up of drastic penal action against hoarders and profiteers, recognition of unions by ascertaining their representative character through a secret ballot and removal of distinction between the industrial and non industrial employees among Government servants. The appointment of wage boards, in jute, plantations, Iron and steel, cement, railways, posts and telegraphs, defence establishments, transport and insurance, was also urged by the deputationists.

Wage Board For Cement Industry

The Government of India have set up a tripartite Wage Board for the cement industry, with Mr. M. R. Meher, President of the Industrial Court, Bombay, as Chairman.

The Board will be required to work out a wage structure based on the principles of fair wages, as set forth in the Report of the Committee on Fair wages, and to lay down the principles for grants of bonus.

The members of the Board are:

Independent Members: Sardar Jogendra Singh M. P. and Dr. D. T. Lakdawala.

Members Representing Employers: Mr. P. K. Mistry and Mr. V. H. Dalmia.

Members Representing Workers: Mr. Somnath P. Dave M. P. and Mr. I. M. Moinuddin.

Central Government Employees

The number of Central Government servants drawing salaries up to Rs. 250 per month was 15,80,243 on June 30, 1955, according to information collected by the Central Statistical Organisation.

This information was given in the Rajya Sabha on March 13 by the Deputy Minister of Finance, in reply to a question. The Minister added that the number was 12,038 in the pay range above Rs. 250/- and up to and including Rs. 300/- per month, to which range the interim relief of Rs. 5/- per month had been extended by way of marginal concession.

Restrictions On Government Servants

Shri B. N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, replied in the affirmative to a question in the Lok Sabha on March 3 inquiring whether there were any restrictions on Government servants

regarding writing books and accepting remuneration for them.

The Minister added that under Rule 12 of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1955, a Government servant was prohibited from engaging, directly or indirectly, in any trade or business or undertaking any employment. This Rule, however, permitted a Government servant to undertake occasional work of a literary, artistic or scientific character provided his official duties did not suffer thereby. Government employees were required to discontinue such work if so desired by the authorities.

Where permission was granted, a part of the income derived by a Government servant from such work, said the Minister, had to be credited to the Government.

Workers' Share In Management :

A list of undertakings in the public sector where the scheme of labour participation in management is to be introduced was placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on March 3 by the Union Deputy Minister for Labour, in reply to a question.

The undertakings under the Central Government are:—

1. Argada Colliery, P.O. Argada, District Hazaribagh;
2. Hindustan Machine Tools Factory, Bangalore; and
3. Eastern Railway Printing Press, Calcutta.

The undertakings under the State Governments are:—

1. State Transport, Madras;
2. State Transport, Trivandrum;
3. P. W. D. Workshop, Trivandrum;
4. Government Ceramic Concerns, Kundra;
5. State Transport Corporation, Bombay;
6. Government Central Press, Bombay;
7. Printing and Stationery, Chandigarh;
8. Roadways, Madhya Bharat; and
9. Electricity Corporation, West Bengal.

Estimates Committee Reports on Progress of I. T. I. and P. & T. Workshops

A comprehensive and co-ordinated enquiry into the progress made by the Indian Telephone Industries (Private) Ltd., Bangalore, and the Posts and Telegraphs Workshops by a technical committee has been suggested by the Estimates Committee of the Sabha in its eleventh report.

The report, which was presented to the House on April 23 by its Chairman, Mr. Balvantrai G. Mehta, has recommended that the enquiry should be made at an early date and its report made available to Parliament in due course so that it, along with the Estimates committee's report, would enable Parliament to make a correct assessment of the working of, and the progress made by I. T. I. and P. & T. Workshops.

The Committee, which covers the various aspects of the working of I. T. I., observes that the progress made by the I. T. I. in regard to actual production of telephone equipment (excluding mere assembly of components) in the last ten years cannot be considered entirely satisfactory. Even in the last three years the actual production has only been 41% of the total capacity.

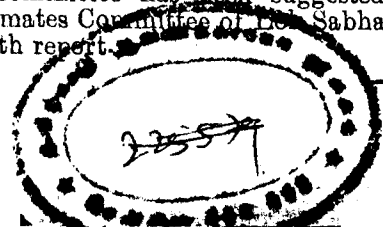
The report also points out that there have been considerable delays particularly in the manufacture of transmission equipment—that the installed capacity in the undertaking is not being put to the optimum use.

The Committee has, therefore, suggested optimum utilisation of production capacity by increasing production both in the telecommunication and non-telecommunication fields with reference to their requirements at home and abroad, and measures to increase indigenous production of imported telephone equipment. The Committee has recommended the constitution of a Telephone Equipment Committee for this purpose.

The report points out that the agreement entered into with the Automatic Telephone and Electric Co. Ltd., Liverpool (UK) in 1948 for the establishment of the undertaking contained some clauses which have not worked wholly in the interest of the government.

Some of them, the report adds, placed a severe restriction on its choice that could have been normally exercised in obtaining tele-communication equipment from manufacturers other than the Automatic Telephone and Electric Company.

Further, no project report which could be utilised by the management as a means of watching the progress of the factory to its production, expansion etc., was prepared or obtained from A.T.E. In its absence, says the report, "it is difficult to make a correct assessment of the actual progress of this undertaking."



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