GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3303 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2023

PRIOR PERMISSION FOR HOLDING POSITIONS

†3303. SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1964 and Railway Services (Conduct) Rules 1966 lay down that it will be necessary for any Central Government employee to take prior permission from his/her employer if he or she desires to hold an elective office in any co-operative banking society;
- (b) if so, whether the members of the Board of Directors of the NE and EC Railway Employees Multi State Primary Co-operative Bank Ltd., Gorakhpur had taken prior permission from the Railway Administration to contest the General Body election and Board of Directors election of this co-operative banking society; and
- (c) if not, the action likely to be taken as per Railway Services (Conduct) Rules, 1966 against the Railway employees/shareholders elected to the General Body and Board of Directors of this Banking Society, if they have contested the said elections without taking prior permission from the Railway Administration?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a)to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3303 BY SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.08.2023 REGARDING PRIOR PERMISSION FOR HOLDING POSITIONS.

(a) to (c): Rule-15 of the Railway Services (Conduct) Rules, 1966, which deals with "Private trade or Employment" lays down that no Railway Servant shall, except with the previous sanction of the Government, hold an elective office in any body, whether incorporated or not. A similar provision exists in Rule-15 of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Further, Indian Railway Establishment Manual, Volume-II, Chapter XXIII lays down that the Government Policy is directed towards encouraging co-operative movement on Indian Railways and it accordingly provides for operation of Cooperative Credit Societies and Banks on Indian Railways together with the facilities, inter-alia, of recovery of loans, bank deposits, and compulsory thrift deposits through the salary bills of the staff concerned, as also provisions of Casual Leave and passes for members of the Managing Committee to attend meetings etc. The NE and EC Railway Employees Multi State Primary Co-operative Bank Ltd., Gorakhpur falls under the category of such Cooperative Credit Societies and Banks and as such the practice has been that the aforesaid provisions of Rule 15 are not attracted unless the element of Private trade or Employment is involved.

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