

**SHRI D. C. SHARMA:** I have read the statement, and from the statement I find that there is hardly any ill from which public undertakings can suffer which is not there so far as the steel plants are concerned. Internally, the demand is slack. The Pande Committee Report with regard to coke-oven and turnace is yet to be implemented. The production of special steel is yet in the air. Diversification of production is wishful thinking. Additional capital facilities are yet to be found. Labour-management relations require improvement. Expenses are mounting and control is not effective. The quality of steel produced is not as high as it should be. So, may I know from the hon. Minister how all these organic ills from which these steel plants are suffering will be cured by bringing into being a public steel corporation which he is thinking of?

**DR. CHANNA REDDY:** All these ills which the hon. Member referred to are being attended to and we have been able to cure a number of them.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

**MR. SPEAKER:** We have taken about forty minutes over this question. I do not know whether we should pursue this any further. When I allow more time, even people who did not stand up originally stand up. What am I to do? Next question.

**Loss to Railways during Language Agitation**

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- \*4. **SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU :**  
**SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:**  
**SHRI D. N. DEB:**  
**SHRI Y. A. PRASAD:**  
**SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA:**  
**SHRI HEM BARUA:**  
**SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPA-**  
**KAR:**  
**SHRIMATI SUSHILA**  
**ROHATGI:**  
**SHRI J. MOHAMED IMAM:**  
**SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:**

**SHRI RAM GOPAL SHAL-**  
**WALE:**

**SHRI N. S. SHARMA:**

**SHRI PRAKASH VIR SHAS-**  
**TRI:**

**SHRI SHIV KUMAR SHASTRI:**

**SHRI RAM SEWAK YADAV:**

**SHRI MOHSIN:**

**SHRI G. C. DLXIT:**

**SHRI VISHWA NATH**  
**PANDEY:**

**SHRI JUGAL MONDAL:**

**SHRI HUKAM CHAND**  
**KACHWAI:**

**SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI**  
**SINHA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss suffered by the Railways during the recent language agitation in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the approximate cost of replacement for damaged property?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH):** (a) and

(b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**STATEMENT**

(a) Name of the State	Amount of loss
	Rs.
Andhra Pradesh	1,00,068.00
Bihar	23.00
Delhi	20.00
Kerala	15,693.00
Madhya Pradesh	1,400.00
Mysore	3,000.00
Madras	19,63,626.00
Uttar Pradesh	4,14,231.00
Total	24,98,061.00

(b) Cost of replacement of damaged property. The replacement cost would approximate to the value of loss given in (a).

**SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:** It is the Parliament which passes these Bills which affect the majority of the people or sizeable sections of the people in the country. When Parliament Members fail to bring to the notice of the Government the evil effects of such legislation and get them rectified people think that the only way to bring their feelings to the notice of the Central Government is to burn the Railway property or break it. I do not agree with this view but this seems to be the only way left to the people to appraise the Government of the discrimination resulting from the language law. In view of this, will the Government consider collecting the entire losses from Members of Parliament who are responsible for passing such legislation? (*Interruptions.*) I am prepared to pay .... (*Interruptions.*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** He may pay his share; he says he is prepared.

**SHRI CHENGALAYA NAIDU:** In view of such happenings; will the hon. Minister at least advise the Government to rectify the defect in the Language Bill . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** No, no.

**SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:** Why not? If Parliament Members are not able to face the truth, if the defect is not remedied, I think more damage will be done.

**SHRI BEDBRATA BARUA:** Is the Railway Board proposing any special enactments to deal with such disturbances?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA):** We have been very much concerned with the latest happenings all over the country. I refer particularly to certain agitations which affected the functioning of the railways and resulted in extensive damage to railway property. The Railway Board has been considering this matter seriously and we have had certain inter-ministerial discussions. The Home Ministry has already

addressed letters to the Chief Ministers drawing their attention to the responsibility of the State Governments to protect Central Government property in their respective areas and their constitutional responsibility in this matter has also been brought to their notice. I hope that the State Governments would have taken appropriate measures to prevent attempts at destroying the railway property.

Incidentally, if I could refer to the hon. Member's question, I should say that the railways are neither the cause nor the cure for any of these agitations.

**SHRI HEM BARUA:** Is it a fact that two recommendations were made recently to the railway authorities: firstly, to shoot at sight the agitators engaged in the destruction of railway property; And secondly, to hold the State Governments responsible for the destruction of railway property, in which the railway establishment exists. If so, may I know whether the Government have given any serious consideration or any thought to this particular suggestion, and if they have given, what is the conclusion they have arrived at?

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** Under the existing provisions of the RPF Act and the other enactments the Railway Protection Force has not the power to resort to the use of fire-arms on such occasions. It is entirely a State subject, law and order being the State Government's responsibility. As regards the question of asking the State Governments to make good such losses, it is a matter which is under consideration.

**SHRI HEM BARUA:** We have been always told that it is the responsibility of the State Governments to protect the railway installations in those States, but nothing has been done so far and the Government has not moved in that direction and this is the most calamitous of things. Therefore, I just wanted to know whether you are holding the State Governments

responsible for the destruction of property.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that he is considering it. He has not given it up.

SHRI HEM BARUA: What is he considering? We are tired of these old women's tales; we are tired of all these things. He has always said, "he is considering, considering and considering." (*Interruption*) I am asked whether I am tired of the old women's tales or tired of the consideration. I am tired of these considerations.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is tired of both.

SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: The Railway Protection Force is a very large establishment in this country and still, it is not able to help in anyway to check the destruction of railway property. May I know if any attempt to get the help of the State police and the State Government was made by the authorities of the Railway Protection Force to check the vandalism in the different States of India?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: Every time, the Railway Protection Force and the railway authorities have brought these facts to the notice of the State Governments and sought their assistance. As a matter of fact, hon. Members would be knowing already that each State Government has a separate Government Railway Police which is responsible for law and order so far as the railway area in the State is concerned and also the protection of railway property in that area. Closest liaison is being maintained whenever occasions arise, their assistance is sought.

SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: With what result in this last instance?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: In some areas, we have had very good results; comparatively, it varies from State to State.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: in view of the extensive damage to railway property and the loss of life, would the Government contemplate, first, the revitalising the civil defence organisation for mobilising public opinion; second, for reconstituting the mohalla committees in order to make the people alert in the case of violence and third, imposing heavy punitive fines so that the people of certain localities may become jointly responsible in the matter of such actions?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: The suggestions are very useful; it requires public co-operation, the State Governments' assistance and, above all, the hon. Member's active interest in these matters.

SHRI NAMBIAR: Is it the desire to get the Members of Parliament of that locality involved in these actions? The Members should not be penalised.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. That is a separate question.

श्री कंबरलाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि प्रापर्टी का कुल लौस 25 लाख रुपये का हुआ है, इसमें से करीब 21 लाख रुपये का गैर-हिन्दी इलाके में हुआ है और चार लाख रुपये का हिन्दी इलाके में हुआ है तथा दिल्ली में 20 रु० का हुआ है, वह भी शायद गलती से जोड़ दिया गया होगा।

मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जिस सर्कलर का उन्होंने जिक्र किया है वह आज से ढाई-तीन महीने पहले भेजा गया था, क्या यह लौस उसके बाद हुआ है तथा कौन-कौन सी स्टेट-गवर्नमेंट्स ऐसी हैं, जिन्होंने पूरी तरह से आपको सहयोग नहीं दिया? मैं उन स्टेट्स के नाम जानना चाहता हूँ? अगर वे सहयोग नहीं देती हैं, तो सरकार ऐसी कौन सी पाबर्स लेना चाहती है कि जिनके जरिये ये चीजें बन्द हो सकें। कोई नया कानून बनवाना चाहती

है या रेलवे पुलिस को और ज्यादा भ्रष्ट-यारात देना चाहती है ?

**SHRI D. C. SHARMA:** To put the record straight, I want to point out that it is not Rs. 25 lakhs but Rs. 25 crores.

**श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्रोफेसर साहब को क्या कहूँ, उनसे जोड़ में गनती हो गई है।

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** In the statement furnished, information is provided as to in which State the heaviest loss has occurred. The circular from Home Ministry was sent to all the State Governments a couple of months ago and we have drawn their attention to the constitutional responsibilities of each State authority. The damages that occur depend upon the spontaneous nature of the agitation that starts. In certain States it has been wide-spread and the losses have been heavy. We are taking up the matter with the State Governments in this regard.

**श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त :** मैंने पूछा है कि कौनसी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने कोम्पारेंट नहीं किया ?

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** I have furnished the list of all the States.

**श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न यह नहीं है कि कितना नुकसान हुआ है, मैं यह नहीं कहता हूँ कि क्यों हुआ, या क्यों हुए इसके कई रीज़न हो सकते हैं। मैं तो यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस सर्कुलर के मुताबिक जहाँ पर घमल नहीं हुआ, जहाँ आप की तसल्ली नहीं है, आप उन राज्यों के नाम बताइये ?

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** That circular was of a general nature. Here the question is about language agitation only. In this regard, the heaviest damage has occurred in Madras.

**SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:** I am not interested in damages.

**MR. SPEAKER:** He wants to know which State has not taken action on the circular. If every State has taken action, you may say so.

**SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:** Please don't suggest the answer, Sir. Let him reply.

**श्री रवि राय :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, ये जानबूझ कर जवाब नहीं दे रहे हैं।

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** In this regard. I am sorry to mention that in Madras and Kerala, no arrests have taken place while in other States arrests have taken place and police investigations are going on.

**SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS rose—**

**MR. SPEAKER:** I have not finished the list of names. For the first two or three days, there are bound to be many names. Let me finish the list first.

**श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले भाषा आन्दोलन के सम्बन्ध में कई स्टेशन जलाये गये, कई बोगियां जलाई गईं, इन अपराधों के सिलसिले में कहाँ कहाँ कितने अपराधी गिरफ्तार हुये हैं क्या कहीं से क्षति पूति के रूप में कोई जुर्माना भी वसूल किया गया है ?

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** The police have arrested 201 persons in U.P. and Bihar out of whom 11 persons were let off after warning. 60 persons were arrested in Andhra Pradesh, 20 of whom have since been released on bail and cases are proceeding.

**श्री विश्वनाथ पांडेय :** भाषा के सम्बन्ध में जो आन्दोलन हुये और उसके द्वारा रेलवे की सम्पत्ति को क्षति पहुंचाई गई है, क्या उसके पहुंचाने में देश के कुछ राजनीतिक दलों का भी हाथ है ? यदि है, तो किस दल का है और उसके सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** This answer could be known after the police investigations are completed and we are duly informed of it.

**SHRI J. K. MONDAL:** I want to know whether the Government will start a publicity campaign to educate the people that the destruction of railway property is a loss to the nation?

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** Yes, Sir, this has been now planned out and we are drawing up concrete proposals to do certain public relation work with the public, with the school children and the student population.

श्री हुडा; चन्द्र खन्ना : जो राज्य सरकारें रेलवे सम्पत्ति को बचाने में सहयोग नहीं देती, क्या केन्द्र सरकार वहाँ रेलवे पुलिस को अधिक अधिकार देने की व्यवस्था कर रही है, या कोई कानून बना रही है ? यदि किसी राज्य में हानि होती है तो क्या सरकार उस राज्य सरकार से मुआवजा लेने को तैयार है ?

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** Sir, this would be a matter which this august House will have to decide sooner or later.

**SHRI A. SREEDHARAN:** In reply to a question whether any State Government is not co-operating with the Government of India in protecting the railway property the hon. Minister said that no arrests have been made in Madras and Kerala. This is a very dangerous, serious and dismal insinuation against a State Government, and it is irresponsible also. When the Minister makes such a reply that automatically means that the Governments of Madras and Kerala have not co-operated with the Central Government in the protection of Railway property. I would like the Minister to give me a pointed reply whether the governments of Madras and Kerala have not co-operated with the Central Government in keeping law and order and also protecting the railway property; if so, what are the details and how he has arrived

at this dubious and quixotic conclusion?

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** It is certainly not dubious and quixotic as my hon. friend tries to put it. The point is, a specific question was asked as to what action was taken and I have just given the information. My information is that no arrests have taken place. It does not mean that the State Governments have not taken other actions. They might have taken and that is well within their knowledge. That information can be sought only from the respective State Governments. As far as I am concerned, my information is that no arrest in this regard has taken place in those States.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS** rose—

**SHRI E. K. NAYANAR:** We want one more question...

**MR. SPEAKER:** Shri Nath Pai.

**SHRI NATH PAI:** Sir, it is quarter of a century since the Railways were nationalised. Does not this wanton attack, on every single pretext, by angry crowds of people on the Railways show that the people do not regard the Railway property as their own property and that the Railways have remained totally isolated and what is really the people's property, because of the colossal failure of the Government, has come to be, in the people's mind, as the Government property? May I know who has got more hand in the destruction of national property, the pro-Hindi or the pro-English element? To whom does this honour go.

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** So far as the Railways are concerned, it is like a candle being burnt at both the ends. It is being burnt; the burning is taking place on slightest pretext and the nation's asset, is being damaged now.

So far as the image of the Indian Railways is concerned, I am going to come before the House very soon with the Railway Budget and there

would be an occasion for me to explain fully in greater details, what the Railways have done, how they have served the people etc.

**SHRI SEZHIYAN:** The Minister has said that no arrests have been made in Madras and Kerala. I want to know from the Minister as to what is the amount of protection given in a particular State by the Government. Is the Minister aware of the fact that when there was a serious disturbance in Madras, when the message was sent, Mr. Karunanidhi, a Minister of that State and another went, personally, to the station and protected the property? Is the Minister aware of this fact?

**SHRI C. M. POONACHA:** It is a fact that the Ministers did go to the place of scene. But before that, the destruction had taken place.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The question Hour is over now. Shri Patodia.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

राज्य व्यापार निगम के पात्र गन्धक

\*5. श्री ललितमूषण बाजपेयी : क्या बाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राज्य व्यापार निगम ने निर्यात करने के लिये अब तक कितना गन्धक प्राप्त किया परन्तु जिनका वास्तव में निर्यात नहीं किया गया;

(ख) इसका प्रति टन कितना शुल्क दिया जाता है;

(ग) यह किस स्थान पर गोदाम में रखा गया है; और इसमें से अब तक कितना गन्धक बेकार हो चुका है; और

(घ) शेष गन्धक को सरकार का विचार किस प्रकार बेचने का है?

3068 (A1) LSD-2.

बाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री दिनेश सिंह) :

(क) राज्य व्यापार निगम गन्धक का प्रायात करता है। गन्धक की निर्यात के लिये प्राप्त करके गोदाम में नहीं रखा जाता है।

(ख) से (घ). प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

#### Prices of Cloth

\*7. **SHRI MAYAVAN:**  
**SHRI ANBUCHÉZHIAN:**  
**SHRI DEIVEEKAN:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Cotton Mills Federation have demanded a 16 per cent increase in the prices of controlled varieties of cloth;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH):** (a) and (b). The Indian Cotton Mills Federation have claimed an increase of 13 per cent in the prices of controlled cloth, about 10 per cent on account of rise in the price of cotton and 3 per cent on account of the rise in dearness allowance.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

#### Model Woollen Mills, Bombay

\*8. **SHRI K. RAMANI:**  
**SHRIMATI SUSHEELA GOPALAN:**  
**SHRI P. GOPALAN:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3587 on the 8th December, 1967 and state:

(a) whether the investigation into the allegation in regard to the allocation of 50,000 lbs. of 2/15 and 1/10, worsted yarn to the Model Woollen