

(b) what were the commodities in the Indian motor vessel; and

(c) what is the extent of damage suffered by this vessel?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The m.v. 'Jal Jawahar' did not sink but caught fire on the 4th March, 1962, off the west coast of Spain while on her way from U.K. to Bombay.

(b) The ship carried general cargo part of which consisted of various chemicals described as poisonous but of non-explosive, non-inflammable or non-corrosive nature.

(c) The ship is reported to have sustained some structural damage but there was no loss of life.

Shri M. R. Krishna: What are the reasons that led to this disaster?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That has to be found out.

Shri M. R. Krishna: Has the investigation started?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am not quite certain whether the investigation has actually started.

Travel and Freight Concessions to Railway Employees

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*279. { **Shri Basappa:**
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri Nath Pai:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the Pay Commission's recommendation regarding the travel and freight concessions allowed to railway employees at present; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision taken?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a). No.

(b). Does not arise.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Is it a fact that this question of reducing the PTOs and passes is now before the Cabinet for their early disposal and if so, what has been the recommendation of the Railway Board to the Cabinet?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The matter is under consideration.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether the Government are aware that the railway employees are enjoying the privilege of passes and PTOs not only in India, but the world over?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, Sir; we are aware that railway employees are enjoying these privileges in most of the countries.

Shri Nath Pai: May I know if the Government have received representations expressing the anxiety of the railway employees regarding the curtailment and whether these representations also will be given due consideration?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We had full discussions with the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen and the All-India Railwaymen's Federation and their views will certainly receive consideration.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether the Government have considered the effects of the decision on the employees in other departments also?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I said, we are still considering this.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In view of the fact that many of the recommendations which are in the interests of labour, specially casual labour, have not been implemented, is it the policy of the Government to implement those recommendations which really detract from the advantages which have accrued to the employees?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No, Sir; it is not the policy of the Government.