

Shri C. M. Poonacha: The question is intermingled with that of necessary resources for us to put on the road as many number of buses as are needed for the various heavy density routes. There are some sectors which are known to be heavy-density routes where they do not have enough number of buses plying at the moment. Another point is that this type of waiting at bus-stops is not throughout the day; it is only at certain peak hours and during such peak hours there would be a little amount of waiting at the bus-stops to get buses; otherwise, the arrangements that are now available in all the States generally speaking and in Delhi, particularly, are fairly adequate enough, though attempts are being made to increase the number of buses and provide additional capacity.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: My question is whether an effort is being made to see that scientific management of buses, their frequency and their punctuality or the lack of it, is studied in order that both in the Capital and in the other parts of the country, people would not waste as much time at the bus-stops as they do at present.

Shri C. M. Poonacha: This important matter is engaging the continuous attention of the authorities concerned. It is a very important matter and it is being given due attention continuously.

बड़े बन्दरगाहों में चोरी

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* 5 श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :

श्री प्र० चं० लक्ष्मी :

श्री भागवत मा आजाद :

श्री सुबोध हंसदा :

श्री स० चं० सामन्त :

डा० म० मो० दास :

श्री यशपाल सिंह :

डा० लक्ष्मीमल्ल सिधवी :

श्री बें० जी० नायक :

क्या परिवहन, उड़यन, नौबहन तथा पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बड़े बन्दरगाहों में पकड़े गये चोरी के गम्भीर मामलों को रोकने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है तथा उसका क्या परिणाम हुआ है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि सीमा शुल्क अधिकारियों की रखवाली में रखा गया सामान भी चोरी हो गया था; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण थे ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri C. M. Poonacha):

A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) The major Ports have organised Watch and Ward forces for looking after Port property and cargo in the sheds and at the yards. This force is assisted by the Port Police force. The Watch and Ward force and the Police force are being strengthened from time to time according to requirements.

Entry into the docks at major Ports is by a system of permits which is enforced strictly. The major Ports have also taken various other steps such as raising the perimeter walls, improvement of lighting within the docks and the yards etc.

At Bombay Port a mobile squad for surprise checks has been in operation. The Bombay and Calcutta Ports have introduced a scheme for awards for the prevention of pilferage etc. Anti-pilferage committees have been set up at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras Ports to review anti-pilferage measures and devise additional

remedial measures, wherever necessary from time to time. The Port authorities review these measures constantly and are trying to remove loopholes. The position regarding loss by pilferage is improving but it is a little premature to assess the results of the measures taken.

(b) and (c). According to reports received from the Collectors of Customs, there have been a few cases of theft of goods kept in the custody of the customs at some major Ports. In these cases, the goods were pilfered either because they were kept in verandahs owing to non-availability of space in the warehouses or because the warehouses taken on rent did not have adequate security arrangements. The situation has since been remedied.

श्री म० ल० द्विवेदी : टेबल पर जो स्टेटमेंट रखा गया है, उस में बताया गया है :

"The position regarding loss by pilferage is improving . . ."

मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पिलफ्रेज बढ़ा है या घट रहा है।

Shri C. M. Poonacha: The pilferage is on the decrease. Arrangements to control and regulate the affairs at the port and to prevent pilferage are being continuously adopted and the number of cases is on the decline.

श्री म० ल० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि किन किन बड़े बन्दरगाहों पर कस्टम्ज ऐथॉरिटीज की कस्टडी से माल चोरी गया है और उस की क्या जाच-पड़ताल की गई है।

Shri C. M. Poonacha: There have been some instances where pilferage has taken place under the Customs custody also. The matters have been looked into and necessary steps have been taken to prevent such pilferage.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that the members of the Watch and Ward organisation are many times in collusion with the thieves, and if so, what check has been put on them so that they may not collude with the thieves?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: It has come to our notice that there are certain instances where the members of the Watch and Ward organisation themselves are in a way responsible for certain pilferages taking place. Apart from the Watch and Ward we have the police force also present, and further, the strength of the police force is also being increased to meet such situations and to control the safety and to ensure the safeguarding of valuable materials at the ports. We are taking necessary action in this regard.

श्री यशपाल मिह : गांधी जी ने कई दफा यह कहा है कि जिस मिनिस्टर के डिपार्टमेंट में चोरी हो, अगर वह उस चोरी का पता न लगा सके, तो वह नुकसान मिनिस्टर की तन्ख्वाह में से काटा जाये। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कितने मिनिस्टर ऐसे हैं, जो इस तरह का नुकसान अपनी तन्ख्वाह से कटवाने के लिए तैयार हैं। इन चोरियों से जो नुकसान होता है, उस का कौन जिम्मेदार है? चोरी होती है और राज्य का माल जाता है, लेकिन उस नुकसान को कहीं से भी पूरा नहीं किया जाता है।

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): I should like to state that most of the amounts has been recovered. My hon. friend is not aware of the fact that quite a lot of it has been recovered.

श्री हुकम चन्द रुखवाय : क्या यह सही है कि वहीं पर काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों के द्वारा ये चोरियाँ की गई हैं; यदि हाँ, तो इस संबंध में कितने लोग पकड़े गए हैं और कितनों का सजा हुई है, अन्यथा जो बाहर

के लोग हैं, वे कितनी संख्या में पकड़े गए हैं ?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I have the information about the number of persons who were arrested in this regard. The total number of persons arrested in all the major ports during the year was 2,160 of whom about 1,367 have been convicted. I do not have the break-up of the people who were working in the port and the people who were from outside.

श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप: मैंने यह पूछा था कि क्या यह सही है कि सरकारी कर्मचारियों के द्वारा ही अधिकतर चोरियों की गई हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा है कि उन के पास ब्रेक-अप नहीं है और वह यह नहीं बता सकते कि सरकारी कर्मचारी कितने थे और दूसरे लोग कितने थे।

श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप: वह यह तो बता सकते हैं कि क्या कुछ पुलिस वालों को इस संबंध में सजा दी गई है या नौकरी से हटाया गया है।

श्री राम सेवक प्रबल: व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: इस में व्यवस्था का प्रश्न क्या है? माननीय सदस्य कार्यवाही को चलने दें।

श्री रामसेवक प्रबल: मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि उन के पास ब्रेक-अप नहीं है। लेकिन वह कम से कम यह तो बतायें कि क्या सरकारी कर्मचारी भी इन चोरियों में शामिल हैं या नहीं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय: उन्होंने कहा है कि इतने लोगों का सजा मिली है, लेकिन यह इन्फ़ॉर्मेशन उन के पास नहीं है कि उन में से सरकारी कर्मचारी कितने हैं।

श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप: ये आंकड़े तो उन के पास होंगे कि उन लोगों में कितने सरकारी कर्मचारी या पुलिस वाले थे।

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अध्यक्ष महोदय: क्या मिनिस्टर साहब बता सकते हैं कि उन में से पुलिस वाले निकले थे ?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I shall try to collect the figure and furnish it to the House.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Considering the fact that the value of goods which are stolen from the Calcutta port every year runs into lakhs of rupees and is increasing every year, has any inquiry been made to see whether this is a case of only small pilferages done by employees or whether there are any big people behind it who have got resources at their disposal like trucks and their own private godowns and so on? Goods worth lakhs of rupees have been stolen from there.

Shri C. M. Poonacha: Pilferage is committed now and then by all sorts of people who go round the ports at various times. Now necessary precautions have been taken. There is no such thing as an organised gang with all this modern equipment committing large-scale theft (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: I have already said that there is so much noise that it is not possible to follow the proceedings. Is this going to be the pattern for the whole month?

Papers to be laid on the Table.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Second Bridge on Hooghly

*6. **Shrimati Renuka Ray:** Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme for the proposed second bridge over the River Hooghly at Princep Ghat, Calcutta has not been included in the Draft Fourth Plan; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) No, Sir. During recent