

the Ministry agrees that the proposal goes for examination in the other Ministries. I want to know what is the attitude of this Ministry?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The decision of the Government is taken on collective and joint responsibility. Therefore, it will not be wholly correct to say that the Transport Ministry has agreed or not in principle. We will decide after we have had the advice of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Finance.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं जाना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी कितनी कारों के आयात के लिए सरकार के पास प्रस्ताव आया था ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मैं गिनती तो नहीं बता सकता हूँ कि कितनी कारों के लिए आया था लेकिन उन्होंने एक उसूल की बात पूछी थी कि क्या इस आघार पर कोई नैगोशियेशन चालू की जा सकती है ?

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मेरे सवाल का आशय यह है कि जो सुझाव एयर इंडिया से आया होगा तो उसके जवाब में सरकार ने कोई गिनती मांगी होगी कि कितनी कारों की आवश्यकता पड़ेगी और कितनी कारों की उसने मांग रखी है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जो प्रस्ताव मेरे सामने है उसमें गिनती नहीं है।

Dr. M. S. Aney: May I ask whether it is not possible for the Government to manufacture tourist cars in India? If it is not possible now, when is it possible for them to do so?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That question could be put to the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries.

Dr. L. M. Sighvi: May I know whether the Air India International indicated the names of the US firms with whom it may be possible to conclude such a barter agreement and with whom exploratory negotiations have already taken place?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The name of the concern has been indicated to us, but it will not be fair and proper for me to disclose that name at this stage.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In view of the fact that we need a lot of very important machinery and we have sometimes to go in for this barter agreement which is regarded as not a very satisfactory agreement, may I know what is the urgency for importing the luxury tourist cars which would be very low down in the list of priority?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The urgency is that a number of tourists who come from America are used to these big cars, and if we want to encourage the promotion of tourist traffic to India and also if we want to encourage their longer stay, we have to provide for the requirements of these cars. Therefore, the Tourist Department does feel that we should have at least a minimum number of such cars to cater to the needs of the tourists. The entire question depends upon the satisfactory nature or otherwise of the whole proposal before us.

Man Found in a Box at Howrah Station

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*1423. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Mohammad Elias:
Shri Dinesh Bhattacharya:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a jute mill worker was found in a box in a train at Howrah Station on the 22nd May, 1962;

(b) if so, whether he has made any statement;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether police have arrested any person in this case?

The Deputy Ministry in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) He has disclosed to the Police that being a member of the Workers' Union he was decoyed by some unknown persons in a car on the plea that the Labour Officer had called him. He could not say where he was kept in confinement or how he was locked up in a trunk.

(d) No arrest has so far been made.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that this worker, Nur-ul-Hassan, wanted to give evidence before the Wage Board and he had given evidence before the Wage Board saying something against the wishes of the jute millowners and that is the reason why the jute millowners packed him like this and sent him away?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: That is the statement that he seems to have made to the police.

Mr. Speaker: He presumes that the jute millowners packed him in the box!

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether his evidence was recorded in the presence only of the police officers or other officials and authorities were also there.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I do not know all the details. I have got the particulars about the statement he had given to the police in the course of the investigation.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: In view of the background of this case to which my hon. friend Shri S. M. Banerjee has referred, I would like to know whether in investigating this case the railway police is going to take the co-operation of the West Bengal State Labour Department as well as the mill authorities. Otherwise, it is not possible to apprehend the culprit.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The whole investigation is being conducted by the GRP and that is the State police.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is not a fact that the man gave evidence before the Wage Board; he was dismissed and then it was only

on the intervention of the workers' union that he was reinstated? Also, may I know whether it is not a fact that in the statement he has made serious allegations against certain persons including the labour inspector?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: All that would not arise out of this question. Sir.

Shri Daji: Is it true that in his statement he has implicated the labour officer of the mill as having threatened him immediately after he gave his statement?

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

The Minister of Railways (Shri Swaran Singh): May I submit that so far as the details of the investigation are concerned, that is purely within the jurisdiction of the State Government, and the Government Railway Police, although it is called Railway Police, is nothing but a wing of the State police, because law and order is their responsibility. In this case, the investigation that has been held so far shows that no railway employees or anyone connected with them are in anyway concerned with this. This is an ordinary crime and if any further information is sought for, this is not the proper forum for it.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether in the railways there is a department known as the C.I.D. Railways? There is a department like that which is connected with the railway administration. May I know whether the C.L.D. Railways, has at all made any attempt to find out the root cause of this murder and given information to the State police?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Is it a case of murder? On the one hand, he wants to have an answer about the C.I.D. and on the other hand he wants to talk of the murder!

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the total number of hours he was in the box has been ascertain-

ed and whether he gave any evidence to that effect?

Shri Swaran Singh: No such information is available with us.

Lifting of Ores by Railways from Orissa

*1424. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have been able to keep the target of transportation of mineral ores from Orissa for export from Calcutta Port fixed for the year 1961-62; and

(b) the total demand of the Mining Industry and the quantity of ores lying at present at different railway stations of Orissa awaiting transportation?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The target of transportation of mineral ores from Orissa to Calcutta Port for the year 1961-62 could not be adhered to because of lack of sufficient indents in Badampahar and Jajpur Keonjhar Road sectors and because of bunching of indents in the latter half of the year in the Barajamda sector coupled with higher priority being given to movement of ore for Rourkela Steel Plant from this sector.

(b) As on 1-5-1962 the outstanding indents of ore traffic awaiting clearance at Barajamda were 2713 BG wagons and those awaiting clearance at Badampahar were ten BG wagons. There were no outstanding indents at Jajpur Keonjhar Road.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: May I know how long it will take to lift all the accumulated stocks of iron ore?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Normally during the busy season, the stocks go up and during the slack period, when the railways have more wagons to spare we clear up the surplus stocks.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: I want to know actually when it will

be possible for the railways to clear the stocks. It is a general reply that he has given.

Mr. Speaker: During the next slack season, it will be cleared.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: When is the slack season? Will it be cleared this year?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The slack season starts during the monsoon. So, during the monsoon, we hope to clear the stocks. I might inform the hon. Member that in the Calcutta port itself there are sizeable stocks of iron ore, i.e. 26,550 tons are lying at the port and we are accumulating more and more. But no extraordinary situation has been created.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Out of these pending indents of wagons in Orissa, may I know how many belong to the State Trading Corporation and how many belong to other parties?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I shall require separate notice for that.

Indian Ocean Expedition

*1426. **Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Posts and Telegraphs Department is participating in the International Indian Ocean expedition from 1962 to 1964;

(b) if so, whether it has joined the expedition;

(c) the budgetary provision for this; and

(d) whether the entire amount for the expedition will be borne by Government?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.