

new method has given them more earnings. But, as I have already said, discussions are being held with the union of the employees, and their working committee is meeting either today or tomorrow, and their final decision will be forthcoming.

I may inform the House that the position has come practically to normal, and the number of telegrams being sent by post is not abnormal. They are as many as are normal.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, I would like to make a personal explanation.

Mr. Speaker: There is no ambiguity about what the hon. Member has asked. Why should he offer personal explanation?

Shri Hem Barua: I should like to offer a personal explanation, because the point is this. The hon. Minister said that my information is wrong. It is not so. The norms has been fixed at 25. Now it is 37 messages per hour and the workers have been resisting this increase in the norm, and they want this to be revised.

Mr. Speaker: He may be holding a different opinion, and the Minister may be holding another opinion. Both are entitled to hold their opinions. So, that does not arise out of the question; it does not arise during the Question Hour.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The crux of the question is, these incentives are given to the workers for better output. But is it not correct that the workers or their representatives are first consulted and the incentives are introduced only afterwards?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That should be the procedure. I agree with the hon. Member that it should be done.

Export of Telecommunication Equipment

*47. **Shri Ragbunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries Limited, is intending to export tele-communication equipment to foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. During 1961-62, orders to the extent of Rs. 1.05 lakhs were secured from Ceylon, Burma and Sikkim. Efforts are also being made to obtain orders from other countries.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन दो देशों के प्रतिरिक्त और कहीं से भी प्राप्त के पास ऑर्डर प्राप्त हैं ?

श्री जगजीवन राम: हम और देशों के लिए भी प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं, लेकिन अभी तक ऑर्डर तो नहीं आये हैं ।

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: How does the price of our telephones and other equipment compare with such equipment in the foreign markets? May I know whether the equipment supplied to the south-eastern markets is cheaper than those which are available in the western market?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Our quotations are quite comparable with those of other countries, and we are trying to compete with other countries on a competitive basis.

Shri Yajnik: May I know if any equipment has already been sent or whether the equipment will be sent in the next few months?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: They have been exported and they are also in the process of being exported.

Shri Heda: May I know whether we are exporting full telephone exchanges or only part of the equipment?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: We are exporting telephone instruments, exchanges, carrier equipment, PBX boxes, etc.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether the Federation of India

Chambers of Commerce and Industry have recently represented complaining about shortage of this equipment and whether there is going to be any augmentation of the manufacture of this equipment?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not think there is any relation between the two. We have a shortage of telephones in big cities, but that does not imply that the capacity of the telephone industry is not enough to meet the demands. Several factors have to be taken into consideration for the expansion of telephone exchanges in a big city.

Shri Daji: Will the hon. Minister assure us that before we export, the needs of our own country will be completely examined? Is it not a fact that we ourselves are in short-supply of these things?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is quite obvious that before we undertake export, the needs of our own country will be examined. But it is sometimes better to get foreign markets, so that we can undertake large-scale expansion of manufacture of this equipment in our country.

Export of Locomotives

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*48. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
 Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign market for exporting Indian locomotives has been explored;

(b) if so, the names of such markets;

(c) whether any orders have been placed by foreign countries for Indian locomotives; and

(d) if so, when the first consignment will be sent out to foreign market?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Efforts are being continued to export Indian built

Locomotives to countries in South-East and West Asia, Africa, South America, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether any negotiation has been made about the price of these locomotives and if so, whether the negotiated price is less or higher than the cost of production of these locomotives?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No such negotiation has been made; we are exploring the possibilities of export.

डा० गोविन्द दास : क्या इन इंजनों को बाहर भेजने के पहले इस बात को देख लिया जायगा कि हमारे देश में इंजनों की कितनी आवश्यकता है इन को बाहर भेजने के पहले इस बात का ध्यान रखा जायगा कि हम को बाहर से इंजन न मंगाने पड़ें और तभी यह इंजन बाहर भेजे जायें ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री स्वर्ण सिंह) : इन चीजों का ख्याल रखा जायगा ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know when we are likely to reach self-sufficiency in the manufacture of locomotives and to what extent imports have been reduced?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Locomotives are of three types. So far as steam locomotives are concerned, we are self-sufficient and we are also in a position to export. As regards diesel locomotives, we have recently set up a factory at Varanasi and entered into an agreement with ALCOS of America. So far as electric locos are concerned, some of them are being made at Chittaranjan. We will not be able to export diesel and electric locomotives for a considerable length of time. As regards steam locomotives, we have not imported them for some years.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know how the prices of the locomotives manufactured in our country compare