

## STATEMENT

The steps taken for growing superior quality of timbers in Andamans Islands are two-fold viz., (a) by adopting measures of concentrated natural regeneration by which the more valuable indigenous species are specially encouraged in new growth. Such species include (1) hardwoods--Andaman padauk, gurjan and badam useful for constructional and other purposes and (2) softwoods--papita, white dhup, bakota, didu, kadam, lambapati in demand for match and plywood industries, (b) artificial regeneration i.e. plantation of valuable species introduced into the islands progressively, such as teak, bamboos, rosewood, balsa etc.

The Nicobar Islands have not yet been taken in hand for forest operations.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** What was the total expenditure incurred?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I want notice for this question.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister wants notice for the question.

## Murder of R.M.S. Staff in Train

\*1483. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether an incident similar to the one which resulted in the death of 3 employees of R.M.S. in the R.M.S. Van in Tundla Station on 12th March, 1958, had occurred in this area in the year 1957;

(b) whether the Police authorities had been specially requested in 1957 to watch this area; and

(c) whether families of the three deceased R.M.S. employees in the recent Tundla incident have been paid compensation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (**Shri Raj Bahadur**): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Not Yet. In the case of Mehi Lal, as he was not on duty, no compensation would be admissible.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether any instruction has been given to the local Police officials that this area must be kept under vigilance?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** This incident took place on the night between the 12th and 13th March, 1958. As I have just now said in reply to the main question, no such incident took place before and we have not heard of any other incident. Ordinary Police safety measures are there.

**Shri Tangamani:** In this particular incident as many as three workers have been killed. May I know whether the R.M.S. Employees' Union have made a representation to the Government to stop working of R.M.S. in the usual third class compartments and to replace them by R.M.S. vans?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It has been our endeavour throughout to replace the third class compartments by normal mail vans. The question is one of production and we have, I think, during the course of the last three or four years, achieved considerable progress in such replacement.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether a representation was received that for carrying cash and articles of intrinsic value special arrangements must be made and they should not be sent with other articles of mail?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Police escort accompanies such trains and we have from time to time also taken note of the desire of the staff as to whether the mail van should be placed in the centre or in the beginning or at the end of the train. Whatever could be done possibly, has been done.

**Mr. Speaker:** They want to separate the carrying of insured and precious articles from ordinary letters.

**Shri Tangamani:** . . . because in all these incidents, we find that these people go in for insured articles.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is there a proposal to do that?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I do not think that there is any such proposal, nor do I think that it can be practical or feasible. Even so, we shall try to examine it.

**श्री राजराज सिंह :** क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मिहि लाल, जो इयूटी देने के लिये टूंडला आ रहा था और ११ घण्टे से दिल्ली आने वाला था, उसको किस तरह बताया गया कि वह इयूटी पर नहीं था ? और अगर यह बात सही है कि वह इयूटी पर था तो क्या उसके डिपेन्डेंट्स को मुआवजा देने की कोशिश की जायेगी ?

**श्री राज बहादुर :** इसमें वास्तविकता यह है कि उसकी इयूटी का मुकाम तो टूंडला ही था । उसकी पत्नी बीमार थी, उसको देखने के लिये वह आगरा गया था और जिस कम्पाटमेंट में वह इनफाक से उस ट्रेन से आ रहा था, आने के बाद उसकी इयूटी शुरू होती ।

**श्री राजराज सिंह :** क्या यह सही नहीं है कि वह आगरा इजाजत में गया था ?

**श्री राज बहादुर :** मैं यह नहीं कहता कि इजाजत से गया था या नहीं, यह मामला एन्क्वायरी का होगा, लेकिन वह उस वक्त उस ट्रेन में इयूटी पर नहीं था ।

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question, Shri Rameshwar Tantiya.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantiya:** Question 1484.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I think, by mistake, I replied to Question No. 1484 when 1480 was called.

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):** Question No. 1480 was not called.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question No. 1480 has been replied.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I thought it was Question No. 1484 that was called and I replied to that.

**Mr. Speaker:** How could that be replied?

**Shri Radhehal Vyas:** Question No. 1480 was called and Question No. 1484 was replied.

**Mr. Speaker:** How was reply to Question No. 1484 given?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Question No. 1480 was not called. By mistake it was called as 1484.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** The difficulty was that the hon. Member mentioned 1480 in a way that it was heard as 1484. There was a misunderstanding on this side also and hon. Members were enquiring as to how they had the reply to Question No. 1484.

**Mr. Speaker:** The difficulty is that both Question No. 480 and Question No. 1484 stand in the name of the same hon. Member. I called Question No. 1480—of course, I do not call a question by its number, but I call the hon. Member's name—and it appears he asked Question No. 1484. I heard him as asking Question No. 1480. Others heard him as asking Question 1484 and that has been answered. Anyway, the hon. Minister may now answer Question No. 1480.

Hon. Ministers also should be on the alert. When I called the next question, I cannot jump over from Question No. 1480 to Question No. 1484. Therefore they must be vigilant.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I was myself surprised, but since he mentioned that number I replied to it.