

Mr. Speaker: Both are correct; next question.

Movement of Foodgrains in Agartala

*1716. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Agartala Town has been cordoned off so that foodgrains could not be freely moved in and out of this city by the traders;

(b) what is the ration given to the citizens of Agartala per week per head; and

(c) whether this quota of ration is considered sufficient?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2½ seers per adult per week and half the quantum per child.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: In view of the fact that the price of rice has gone up and the quantity of rice that is available through ration is not sufficient for the requirement of the people, do Government intend to increase the quota of Agartala, as it is a cordoned area?

Shri A. M. Thomas: From the figures I have given, it will be found that an adult gets about 11½ ounces per day—that is roughly 12 ounces per day. That is sufficient. Open market operations are not completely banned also.

गोरखपुर रेलवे बर्कशाप में चोरियाँ

*१७११. श्री बाबूबेदी : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के गोरखपुर बर्कशाप के नये स्टोर में १५ जनवरी, १९५८ को पीतल और तांबे की एक बड़ी चोरी पकड़ी गयी ;

(ख) या इस संबंध में अब तक कोई गिरफ्तारी हुई है ;

(ग) क्या उक्त चोरी के उपरान्त स्टोर में रखे सामान की पुनः जांच कर ली गयी है ; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो इस जांच के फलस्वरूप कितने का माल गायब पाया गया ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री झाहनबाबू झा) :
(क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) अभी तक कोई गिरफ्तारी नहीं हुई है ।

(ग) स्टोर की जांच की जा रही है, लेकिन अभी पूरी नहीं हुई है ।

(घ) سوال नहीं उठता ।

An Hon. Member: In English also.

Shri Shah Nawazkhan: (a) Yes.

(b) No arrests have been made so far.

(c) Verification of the stores has been taken in hand but is not yet completed.

(d) Does not arise.

श्री झाबूबेदी : क्या यह सही नहीं है कि गोरखपुर के रेलवे बर्कशाप में इससे पहले भी बहुत सी भारी चोरियाँ हो चुकी हैं और यदि हाँ तो सरकार ने इस प्रकार की चोरियों को रोकने के लिये क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

श्री झाहनबाबू झा : कोई बहुत भारी चोरियाँ हुई हों, इसका मुझे इस वक्त कोई इल्म नहीं है, जैसे छोटी मोटी चोरियाँ प्रक्सर बर्कशाप से होती रहती हैं और उन चोरियों को रोकने के लिये खास तदाबीर, तजबीजें और बन्दो-बस्त हैं और वह काफी समझे जाते हैं ।

श्री झाबूबेदी : यह चोरी १५ जनवरी, १९५८ को हुई थी और अभी उप मंत्री महोदय ने ऐसा बताया कि तब से लगातार इस चोरी की जांच की जा रही है । यह तो अश्रक का महीना है क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि स्टोर में जो भी सामान रद्द गया है या चोरी चला

क्यों है उसकी जांच के बारे में इसकी देर क्यों लगे रही है ?

श्री साहनवाज खां : उस स्टोर में शायद मामूलीय सदस्य को मालूम होगा बहुत ज्यादा सामान है और सामान की पूरी-पूरी जांच की जा रही है । उसमें बहुत तो लगता ही है ।

Shri Goray: The Deputy Minister has admitted that large-scale theft has taken place. May I know the extent and the value of it?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I think it will be more appropriate to give it after we have completed investigations.

Shri Tangamani: What is the estimated value of the articles stolen?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: So far loss up to the extent of Rs. 15,000 has already been detected, but we have not actually completed investigations. May be there is something more.

Chilka Lake

*1712. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 993 on the 11th December, 1957 in respect of the Chilka Lake and state:

(a) the progress so far made in this matter; and

(b) when the scheme is expected to be completed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications, (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The State Government have stated that the scheme regarding development of Chilka Lake is still under consideration of that Government and is expected to be completed by the end of the financial year 1958-59. It appears no progress has been made in this matter.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether the recommendations of the Estimates Committee for development of the Chilka Lake into a port have been accepted by Government?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No such recommendation has been made by the Estimates Committee for developing the lake into a port and as such the question of accepting the same does not arise. As regards the development of Chilka Lake as a tourist centre, the scheme forms part of part II of the Plan for Tourism which means that it is to be financed partly by the Centre and partly by the State Government. The State Government has been requested for the last one year to submit its plans and estimates but it is still considering certain alternative proposals. Hence the delay.

Shri Sanganna: What is the estimated cost of this project?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Rs. 3 lakhs.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know how far the work that was taken up for the improvement of Chilka Lake has been implemented and to what extent work is still pending for implementation?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We requested them for letting us know the exact site for the rest house and other project and they were trying to do it. Meanwhile, another alternative project was put up to the State Government. That was acquisition of the palace of an ex-ruler. That also is under consideration. Therefore, there is delay.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether Government have made any enquiry with regard to the fixation of price for the palace of the ex-ruler which the Government of Orissa is going to purchase with Central assistance?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I do not think the price has been fixed so far.

Ticketless Travel on Trains

*1713. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what was the result of the intensive check against ticketless travel carried out during the period