

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Hon. Members must have some point in view when asking questions. What is it that they expect Government to do? To leave out Japan and go only to the west?

Shri Yajnik: What is the total tonnage of these ships?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The total tonnage has to be decided after we get to know the requirements and the type of vessels that we could get.

Shri Yajnik: How can the terms of purchase be discussed unless they know the total tonnage they are buying from Japan?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We have to buy a tanker, we have to buy a cargo ship and, if possible, we have to buy a cargo-passenger ship. But what the tonnage will be will depend upon the terms and the requirements of the companies or of the corporations who may like to acquire ships in this connection.

*1059. Omitted.

Defective Construction of Ships at Hindustan Shipyard

*1060. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that three more vessels V.C. 137, V.C. 139 and V.C. 142 built by Hindustan Shipyard have been found defective?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): No defectives have so far been found in the vessels referred to in the question.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि चूँकि भ्रष्टाचारों में यह बात बहुत ज़ोरों से आई है कि जो तीनों शिप्स तैयार हुए हैं वे ठीक नहीं हैं, क्या प्राय के द्वारा इस के सम्बन्ध में कोई दम्बवारी होगी ?

श्री राज बहादुर : तैयार हुए हैं ? मैं तो समझता हूँ कि हो रहे हैं। उन के बारे में जो उन का बेसिक प्लान होता है

वह तैयार किया गया, बकिंग प्लान तैयार किया गया। फिर उन की जांच हुई। जांच करने के बाद जो कुछ भी उन का परीक्षण था उस से मालूम पड़ा कि वे पूर्णतया स्टेबल होंगे। फिर भी बिलकुल टेकनिकल टर्म में, थ्योरेटिकल में कहा जा सकता है कि जी० एम० अर्थात् श्रेविटी एंड मेटासेन्ट्रिक हाइट में कुछ अन्तर हो सकता है। उस के बारे में भी यह तय हो चुका है कि इन जहाजों में किसी प्रकार का दोष माने वाला नहीं है।

Shri Goray: Are these ships being built under the supervision of the French experts?

Shri Raj Bahadur: So long as the French experts are there, of course, we consult them and get their advice.

Shri Goray: Is it not a fact that the same French experts advised us in connection with *Andamans* and we found that *Andamans* was rather defective or faulty?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Inquiry into *Andamans* has taken place. I may also inform the hon. Member and the House that with these consultants, we have already constructed as many as 10 ships which are plying on the seas. Just because some defect was found in one ship, it does not mean that all the ships have the same defect, especially in view of the fact that 10 ships have already been constructed with their consultation and under their direct supervision, and these ships are now plying.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: When are these ships proposed to be launched?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I will have to ask for notice, because they are in their preliminary stages.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इसके बारे में प्रायने कहा था कि दम्बवारी हो गई है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि दम्बवारी रिपोर्ट आई या नहीं।

श्री राज बहादुर : एम्बवायरी रिपोर्ट
मा गई है ।

Strike by Calcutta Dock Workers

*1061. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Will the Minister of Transport and
Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how the strike by Calcutta Dock
workers in January, 1958 had affected
the loading and unloading and other
ancillary work at the Calcutta Port;

(b) whether any demurrage had
to be paid to the shipping company
for failure to unload within the stipu-
lated time; and

(c) if so, what is the amount so
paid?

The Minister of State in the Minis-
try of Transport and Communications
(Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) During the
period of the strike it was possible to
carry out loading and unloading opera-
tions in the port only on a limited scale
and this resulted in detention to both
import and export vessels.

(b) and (c). The time lost during
the strike is not counted as "lay time"
for chartered vessels, and so no demur-
rage charges were payable.

Shri Muhammed Elias: What was
the reason for the strike? Have any
demands by the workers been placed
before Government? How was the
strike ended?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Certain demands
were made. I believe I need not go
into details. Otherwise, the answer
will be too lengthy. At the interven-
tion of the Regional Labour Commis-
sioner, the demands were settled. A
settlement was duly arrived at. Signa-
tures were obtained on the settle-
ment. Yet the strike was not called
off. Despite the appeals of labour
leaders, the strike continued until
emergency was declared, after which
the next day the strike was called
off.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whe-
ther one of the demands for which
the dock workers of Calcutta went on
strike was for the implementation of
the Chaudhuri Committee's Report?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No. This parti-
cular incident had nothing to do with
that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon.
Minister has just now said that the
conciliation officer intervened and
there was some sort of settlement.
May I know what specific points were
discussed and settled?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It will make
long list. But I will read out. . . .

Mr. Speaker: What was the main
demand?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The main demand
was for arrears of extra wages in res-
pect of paid holidays during the year
to monthly workers, along with the
wages for January, 1958. The Board
would obtain clarification from Gov-
ernment whether the extra wages
were payable under the Dock Workers
(Regulation of Employment) Scheme,
1956. In case it was held that no
extra wages were to be paid, payment
of arrears should be treated as *ex-
gratia* payment, and no further pay-
ment would be made. This was the
main demand.

Shri Muhammed Elias: How long
will it take Government to implement
the recommendations of the Chaudhuri
Committee Report which was placed
in their hands in the month of
October?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have given a
very full answer to this previously,
and it does not arise out of this parti-
cular question. Even so, I may say
that negotiations in regard to the
implementation of the recommenda-
tions of the Chaudhuri Committee are
going on in various ports. In Madras,
a settlement has been nearly reached;
in Bombay, it is about to be reached;
in Calcutta also, they have made very
good progress.