

श्री ए० सा० बाकपाल : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा सवाल हिन्दी में था और मैं चाहता हूँ कि मुझे उसका उत्तर हिन्दी में दिया जाये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय . चूँकि वह हिन्दी पढ़ नहीं सकते हैं, इस वास्ते तो माननीय सदस्यों ने ऐतराज किया है और कहा है कि अंग्रेजी में पढ़ दें।

उन्होंने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी नहीं है कि वहाँ पर किसी आदमी ने इस समिति के नाम पर माल डिब्बे लिये थे।

श्री ए० सा० बाकपाल : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या गवर्नमेंट को पता है कि वहाँ पर दलाल चलते फिरते हैं और लोगों को माल-डिब्बे देकर नाजायज फायदा उठाते हैं और साथ ही यह कहाँ तक ठीक है कि सहकारी संस्थाओं की अपेक्षा माल गाड़ी के डिब्बे वितरण करने में व्यक्तिगत फर्मों का अधिक ध्यान रखा जाता है ?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: As I said, we have no information that there was such a thing at all

#### Misappropriation of Railway Funds

\*1325. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state-

(a) whether it is a fact that a Railway official of the Eastern Railway posted at Bandel station has misappropriated a sum of rupees three lakhs, and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken against that official?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Misappropriation of a sum of Rs. 54,514.50 nP. has so far been revealed as a result of a Fact Finding Enquiry. Six Railway employees are suspected to be involved in this fraud

(b) Disciplinary action has been initiated against these six officials

who have since been placed under suspension.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: May I know the means adopted by the officers to misappropriate this huge amount?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: They were making fictitious payments on false thumb impressions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member wanted to know the measures adopted

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The measures adopted were, the same person was putting on his thumb impression over and over again.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not the measures adopted by them but the measures that the Government have adopted. What is the *modus operandi*?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: She wanted to know the *modus operandi* followed by the accused officers

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know when this case was detected and whether the police was informed or not? Or, is it only after the investigation that a case was launched?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The information came to us on the 24th June. Departmental enquiries were immediately initiated and action is being taken. As soon as the departmental action is finalised, we propose to hand over the case to the SPE.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know since how long this misappropriation was going on and the number of men who are involved, and whether some of them belong to Class II or Class I service?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Investigation is going on. We have seized the records.

**Shri Barrow:** He wanted to know since how long it is going on.

**Shri Tyagi:** The Minister has stated the case was detected, for the first time, in the month of June, and departmental enquiry is going on. Four months have passed, June, July, August and September. I wonder why the case has not been handed over to the police yet, if it is a case of embezzlement.

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** The case will have to be handed over to the police. First we have to have a preliminary evidence for the case. So far as the investigation is concerned, it indicates that this fraud was going on since 1957. As has been stated, six persons are involved in it. They have been placed under suspension, and as soon as we find that we have enough material to proceed with the case, the matter will be handed over to the Special Police Establishment.

**Shri Tyagi:** Parliament has passed an enactment. The enforcement police always deal with such cases. May I know why it was not given to the enforcement police to prosecute that person?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** We have had experience of the enforcement police also. There is at times much delay in that and after there is an investigation, in many cases, they ask us to proceed departmentally. In order to avoid that delay, we first see whether we can deal with it departmentally. If we find we cannot deal with it departmentally, we have to give it to the S P E.

**Shri T B Vittal Rao:** May I know what were the daily average earnings at the Station? When the fraud was going on since 1957, was the station not inspected by the travelling inspector of accounts?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** It is not in the station accounts, it is in the payment of labour working under the permanent way inspector.

**Shri P. R. Patel:** My request is that so far as Question No 1334-A which has been included in the supplementary list is concerned, I only want that the report may be placed on the Table of the House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The answer would be placed here.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Movement of Goods

\*1322 **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the steps taken by Government to improve the movement of goods on various Railways during the period from May, 1959 to the 31st July, 1959, and

(b) the percentage of increased income in comparison to last year for the corresponding period?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S V Ramaswamy):** (a) The sustained drive to speed up movement generally, which has been on for the last few years was kept up. In addition, 10 Express Goods Services covering Northern, Western, Eastern, Central and Southern Railways and 14 Crack Specials covering South Eastern, Northern and Western Railways were introduced during the period from May 1959 to 31st July 1959.

(b) The percentage of increased income from goods traffic during June 1959 over June 1958 was 4.7. Percentage increase in income from goods traffic during July, 1959 over July 1958 was approximately 3.6 per cent.