

COACH-BUILDING FIRM IN SWITZERLAND

***484. Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have appointed a Special Officer to review the existing arrangement between them and a Coach-building Firm of Switzerland?

(b) If so, will the Officer have the right to scrutinise whether an agreement for associating the Firm with the construction and operation of the proposed workshop at Perambar is necessary?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes; an officer has been placed on special duty to review the agreement with the Coach-building firm, as well as to deal with a few other matters concerning procurement of certain Railway stores from abroad.

(b) The officer will review the agreement and negotiate for its improvement. In the view of Government, a technical aid agreement for the establishment of early and economical production in India of the integral type of coach, is essential.

Shri Gidwani: May I know whether the Special Officer who was being appointed had any hand in the previous agreement?

Shri Alagesan: No, Sir.

Shri Gidwani: Is Indian talent not available?

Shri Alagesan: That has been discussed in this House.

Shri Gidwani: The Agreement cannot be cancelled now?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Midway?

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether in the terms of the Agreement the Government of India is made liable to pay extra compensation?

Shri Alagesan: No, Sir. There is no warrant for any such assumption.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India was consulted, or is he likely to be consulted, before making final decisions with regard to this Agreement?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the good of making suggestions which are beyond the scope of anybody's charge?

Shri S. N. Das: Before entering into an Agreement, it is incumbent upon the Government to consult the Auditor-General.

Shri Alagesan: It has already been entered into. We are now trying to revise and improve it in various respects.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether in this Agreement, there is any condition regarding the conduct of cases which may arise out of this Agreement?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Any arbitration clause?

Shri V. P. Nayar: Legal proceedings.

Shri Alagesan: I should like to have notice. A copy of the Agreement is available also.

CHAIRMAN, CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANISATION

***485. Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the present Chairman of the Central Tractor Organisation has been drawing daily allowance for working both as Chairman C.T.O. and Joint Secretary in the same Station?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): It is not correct to say that the Chairman, Central Tractor Organisation is "drawing daily allowance for working both as Chairman, C.T.O. and Joint Secretary in the same station". The two offices are seven miles away from each other and on any day on which the Chairman, C.T.O., has to work in both offices and uses his own transport for the journey, he is permitted to draw daily allowance according to the rules.

Shri Gidwani: I want to know whether the rules cannot be changed now and cannot a staff car be provided to this officer for coming from C.T.O. office to the Secretariat?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: All these suggestions and various other alternatives were examined. It was found that this would be the most economical method.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): I am thankful to the hon. Member for drawing attention to this anomaly and the position will be examined and remedied.

**ANCHAL AND TELEPHONE DEPARTMENT
EMPLOYEES OF TRAVANCORE-COCHIN**

***489. Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the policy of Government to give promotions to the