

ALLOTMENT OF WAGONS FOR RAIPUR RAILWAY STATION

*1874. **Shri B. N. Misra:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that railway goods wagons are now being not allotted to traders for being booked to free destinations from Raipur Railway Station on the Eastern Railway?

(b) If so, since when and for what reasons?

(c) Is it a fact that at Raipur Railway Station, allotments once given, for preferential or non-preferential commodities, are being superseded?

(d) If so, since when and for what reasons?

(e) Is it a fact that at Raipur, the allotments of wagons for free destinations are not being given for days together?

(f) If so, what are the reasons for that?

(g) What is the total number of wagons allotted to Raipur Station per day since 1st March, 1953?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). This has happened on certain occasions due to the anticipated number of empty wagons not having materialised.

(e) Wagons are allotted in accordance with the order of preference and date of registration. Delays sometime occur in meeting demands of traffic in the lower order of preference and non-preferential traffic.

(f) Shortage of wagons.

(g) 13 daily upto 9th April 1953.

Shri B. N. Misra: May I know the number of wagons ordered during the months of January and February, 1953?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I require notice.

WAITING ROOMS

*1875. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that at big stations like Poonpoo on the Patna-Gaya line, E.I.R. Bihar, where thousands of Hindu Pilgrims come from all parts of India every year, there is no higher class passengers' waiting room or even Inter Class waiting room?

(b) Do Government propose to take steps, in the near future, to construct higher class passengers' waiting rooms at important stations on the Patna-Gaya line (E.I.R.)?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) There is no upper class or Inter class waiting room at Poonpoo, but there are upper class waiting rooms at Jehanabad, Tehta and Bela on the Patna-Gaya section.

(b) The provision of upper class waiting rooms at other stations on the Patna-Gaya section will be put up for consideration by the Passenger Amenities Sub-committee.

Shri K. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that some lands were acquired for the improvement of this station and nothing has been done yet?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: No, Sir.

MARINE FISHERIES

*1876. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the operational agreement in relation to project for the expansion and modernisation of marine fisheries was signed between the Governments of India and U.S.A.;

(b) the specified improvement made in the existing fishing craft and method of capture; and

(c) the annual approximate quantity of fish which used to be captured in two or three years before the year of agreement and the quantity annually captured after the date of agreement?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) May 31, 1952.

(b) The Agreement provides for, among other things, the supply of marine diesel engines and other equipment for improving the existing craft and methods of capture. Considerable study and investigation was needed to ensure that the proper equipment was ordered. This has now been completed and it is hoped to procure the equipment at an early date. Improvement will become visible only when the equipment arrives and is put into position.

(c) The annual estimated quantities of marine fish landed are as follows:—

1949	9,536,000 Maunds.
1950	14,010,000 Maunds.