

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** How many tankers are there? .

**Shri Alagesan:** This tonnage consists of about 112 ships; but I shall ask for notice for the number of tankers.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Is the Ministry of Transport aware of the importance of shipping to our defence and is it carrying on its activities in consultation with the Ministry of Defence?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Is the Ministry aware that the progress of the French experts who have taken charge of the construction of a shipping yard at Vizagapatnam is not satisfactory?

**Shri Alagesan:** In this shipyard we have programmed for the construction of a lakh of tonnage during the Five Year Plan period.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Is the Ministry aware that the Pakistan Government has arranged with German engineers to construct a shipping yard within the course of three years?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We are entering into an argument.

#### भारतीय तटीय व्यापार

\*८२६. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या याता-यात मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय तटीय व्यापार के लिये कुल कितने टन के जलपोतों की आवश्यकता है ;

(ख) भारतीय तटीय व्यापार के पूर्ण-रूप से राष्ट्रीयकरण किये जाने की कब तक सम्भावना है ;

(ग) भारतीय तटीय व्यापार में लगे हुए विदेशी जलपोतों की संख्या क्या है ; तथा

(घ) क्या भारत सरकार की तटीय व्यापार में संलग्न जलपोतों या विदेशी कम्पनियों से कर के रूप में कोई आय होती है ; यदि होती है, तो १९५२ में इस प्रकार कितनी राशि वसूल की गई ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The estimated total tonnage required

for India's coastal trade is about 2½ to 3 lakhs gross tons.

(b) Indian shipping is already carrying practically the entire coastal trade of India.

(c) No foreign ships are at present regularly employed on the Indian coast though occasional voyage licences are granted to such ships to meet urgent needs.

(d) Income tax is levied on the income derived from freight earnings in India by foreign ships or by foreign shipping companies. No statistics are however readily available to show the amount of tax actually levied on foreign shipping whether employed on the Indian coast or on overseas trade.

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** Is the Government aware of the Four Year Plan of Japan for making ships?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We are concerned with our Five Year Plan.

**Shri M. D. Joshi:** Is the present tonnage of coastal shipping adequate for our traffic?

**Shri Alagesan:** It is more or less adequate, but we have provided for purchase of additional ships.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** What is the total value of Indian coastal trade carried on by Indian ships?

**Shri Alagesan:** I am afraid I should ask for notice.

#### FIRE IN GAYA-MUGHALSARAI PASSENGER TRAIN

\*827. **Shri N. P. Damodaran:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that third class bogie of the Gaya-Mughalsarai 7? Up passenger train caught fire on the afternoon of the 26th February, 1953 resulting in the death of four passengers and injuries to many others;

(b) if so, what were the causes for the fire;

(c) what action Government have taken to help the sufferers and the families of the persons who lost their lives in the tragedy; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) At about 14-53 hours on 26-2-1953,