

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) yes.

(b) The facts of the case did not warrant the grant of a direct financial subsidy.

SALE OF "JALAZAD" AND "JALJAWAHAR"

***1006. Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have given permission to the Scindia Company to sell the two passenger ships "Jalazad" and "Jaljawahar" to the Eastern Shipping Corporation;

(b) whether Government took more than a year to come to the decision that the Company should be allowed to sell these passenger ships instead of its being granted financial assistance for maintaining the passenger service;

(c) whether Government have made it a condition for granting permission for the sale of these passenger vessels that the sale proceeds of these vessels should be utilised by the Company in building suitable passenger ships for resuming the India-U.K. passenger service in the future; and

(d) if not, whether any other conditions have been laid down for the utilisation of the sale proceeds of these passenger vessels for expanding the Indian tonnage?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a), (c) and (d). Permission has been given to the Scindia Company to sell the two vessels to the Eastern Shipping Corporation subject to the condition that the sale proceeds should be kept earmarked by the Scindia Company for the acquisition of additional tonnage (cargo vessels) for their overseas service. No other condition has been imposed.

(b) Yes. The Government had to consider very carefully all the pros and cons before taking a final decision on this difficult question.

SUGAR CESS

***1007. Shri Bibhut Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amount Government spend out of sugar cess in sugar cane producing area for the development of cane?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): A statement showing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 19.]

MISLOADING OF WAGONS AT MODINAGAR

***1008. Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to answers given to starred questions Nos. 446 and 477 asked on the 13th August, 1953 and state:

(a) the action taken on the railway officials involved in the misloading of the wagons at Modi Industries Siding (Modinagar);

(b) the categories of railway officials; and

(c) the nature of punishment meted out?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c). There were altogether 14 railway officials involved in this case of whom 7 have either gone to Pakistan or resigned or retired from service. The remaining 7 consisting of 1 Station Master, 3 Assistant Station Masters, 1 Guard, 1 Goods Clerk and 1 Booking Clerk were charge-sheeted for removal from service. The staff concerned, however, asked for an enquiry and the Northern Railway Administration instituted a joint enquiry by a Transportation Officer and an Accounts Officer. The enquiry has just been completed. The enquiring officers will shortly submit their report on receipt of which departmental action against the staff concerned will be finalised.