

(c) Do Government propose to place on the Table of the House a copy of the fresh Agreement with the above firm?

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

(b) (i) Rs. 9.68 lakhs for basic fee upto 1951; and

(ii) Rs. 227.28 lakhs for the coaches supplied and advance made against those on order.

(c) A copy of the supplemental agreement which is under print will be placed on the Table of the House when ready.

ALL-METAL LIGHT WEIGHT COACHES

*72. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what is the number of All-Metal Light Weight coaches supplied so far?

(b) What are the reasons, if any, for the terms of the contract entered into in this respect not being fulfilled?

(c) Have the Light Weight Coaches supplied so far been put on the track and tested?

(d) If so, are they strong and durable enough in comparison to other coaches in use in Railways?

(e) By what time is the manufacture work of the coaches of Swiss type likely to commence in India and at what place?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 68 coaches up to the end of June 1953.

(b) The delay in the deliveries of coaches was due to more time taken than first expected in finalising the design, changing the order for supply of unfurnished coaches to that of furnished coaches and difficulty in procuring raw material due to the international situation.

(c) Yes.

(d) The service obtained from the coaches has so far been satisfactory. As regards comparative durability it

is too early to draw any final conclusion, but they are expected to be as durable as other coaches in use in India.

(e) Second half of 1955 at Perambur (Madras).

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if any defects were noticed by Government in the contract and if so whether any responsibility has been placed upon the persons who were responsible in this country?

Shri Alagesan: Sir, the delay in the deliveries of these coaches revealed certain defects in the agreement and as such a supplementary agreement was negotiated and finalised. There is no question of bringing to book anybody who is responsible for the original agreement.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: With reference to the answer to part (c) of Q. 71, may I ask, Sir, whether in the revised agreement any provision has been made for proceeding legally in cases of breaches of contract?

Shri Alagesan: The whole agreement will be placed before the House. Now a penalty clause has been included in the agreement in case of delay in fulfilling the order.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether this particular firm had any previous experience in the manufacture of similar coaches?

Shri Alagesan: They have a lot of experience.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: May I know whether Government have any knowledge or information that these metal coaches become very hot in India during summer and become oppressive?

Shri Alagesan: It is found that there is no difference between these coaches and the all metal Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. coaches.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: What is the cost of the imported coach which you showed and which shall be constructed in India?

Shri Alagesan: The firm prices of these coaches have been fixed and it

works out to Rs. 1.2 lakhs ex-works and the cost of those built in Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. comes to Rs. 1.2 lakhs.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: What shall be the interest of the Swiss firm in the present large construction programme and that of the other experts from Switzerland?

Shri Alagesan: They have entered into an agreement with us and they have been paid the basic fee. We have already paid three or four instalments. The rest of the basic fee will be paid to them and that has been tied up with actual target of production being achieved.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : इन गाड़ियों के पहले जो गाड़ियाँ हम बाहर से मंगाले थे, उनकी कीमत में और इन गाड़ियों की कीमत में कितना अन्तर है ?

Shri Alagesan: I have already answered.

CALCUTTA CIRCULAR RAILWAY INQUIRY COMMITTEE REPORT

*73. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the recommendations of the Calcutta Circular Railway Inquiry Committee have been examined by Government?

(b) Who has been entrusted with the task of detailed examination of the alignments proposed by the Committee and their estimates of quantities and costs?

(c) What is the portion of densely populated area which will be requisitioned in case a decision is taken to build a Circular Railway as recommended by the Committee?

(d) What is the likely compensation which might have to be given in the event of such a possibility?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) A team of officers has been appointed to carry out a survey in connection with the Calcutta Suburban

Electrification Scheme and the same team will also examine in detail the proposals made by the Calcutta Circular Railway Inquiry Committee.

(c) and (d). This information will be available after the detailed examination has been carried out.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Is this proposal likely to materialise?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: This is likely to materialise. The larger scheme of electrification of the suburbs of Calcutta is expected to take about seven to eight years.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Have any estimates been made available in connection with the proposed construction?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: There is no estimate in this connection. A team of officers has been instructed to go round and carry out the survey and the whole scheme is still under consideration.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, the constitution of the Inquiry Committee and whether there is any representation from the West Bengal Government?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: If the hon. Member is referring to the Circular Railway Inquiry Committee, there was a non-official President, Sir S. N. Roy from Bengal, and all the interests which were affected by the Railway were well represented in the Committee.

REPRESENTATION FROM JUTE WORKERS

*74. **Shri Tushar Chatterjee:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether Government have received a representation signed by nearly 20,000 jute workers of West Bengal asking for a tripartite enquiry committee to investigate into the conditions of the jute industry (including trade and labour) and suspension of any further retrenchment?

(b) If so, do Government propose to lay a copy of the representation on the Table of the House?

(c) What decision have Government taken regarding the demands made in the representation?