

(b) The operational area allowance was granted in compensation for hardships of life the staff had to undergo in that area. Comparatively speaking there was no justification for granting the concession in Jammu city.

RAILWAY AND WAGON BOOKINGS

*115. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received representations from various associations of trade and commerce, especially those of Ahmedabad and Kaira Districts regarding the irregularities in railway booking and shortage of wagons; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to ease the situation?

The **Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Yes. A number of representations have been received from the public and trade and commercial associations in the Ahmedabad and Kaira Districts of Bombay State regarding shortage of wagons for movement of traffic, but only one in respect of irregularities in allotment of wagons.

(b) Consistent with the overall requirements of traffic to be met, endeavours continue to be made to ease the situation which became particularly difficult owing to the heavy movements of hay for famine areas in Maharashtra required by the Bombay Government, followed by breaches on the Bulsar District in the middle of June. The rate of movement of traffic has already improved.

LADY SOCIAL GUIDES

*116. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint lady social guides; and

(b) if so, when?

The **Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Some lady Social Guides are already functioning at certain stations on the Indian Railways and there is no fresh proposal for appointment of lady Social Guides as such.

(b) Does not arise.

ACCIDENT NEAR MADANAPALLI (C.I.A.M.S)

*117. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total amount of claims received so far regarding the railway accident that occurred in June, 1953 near Madanapalli on the Southern Railway?

(b) What is the maximum amount allowed to an individual?

(c) Is the decision of the Claims Commissioners final in this matter?

The **Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):**

(a) Claims to the extent of Rs. 78,400 were received by the Southern Railway, but the parties concerned have been advised to prefer them to the Claims Commissioner appointed under the Indian Railways Act, as he is the only competent authority to determine such claims.

(b) The maximum amount allowed as compensation to an individual is Rs. 10,000/- under the Indian Railways Act.

(c) The decision of the Railway claims Commissioner is final, except that an appeal by the claimants lies to the High Court in respect of the quantum of compensation awarded.

नौकरी विनियम का चलनू कार्यालय

*११८. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या अब मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सब है कि दिल्ली में एक नौकरी विनियम का चलनू कार्यालय खोले जाने का विचार है ;