

WATER TANKS IN RAILWAY CARRIAGES

***1096. Shri Achuthan:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the water tanks in the railway carriages are having the same dimension, size and capacity for second class, inter class and third class on the long routes?

(b) If not, what are the variations?

(c) Are Government aware of the difficulty caused to passengers due to want of water in the tank between filling stations, specially in the third and inter class carriages on the long routes?

(d) If so, what measures do Government propose to take to remove the water scarcity?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In spite of an allowance of about 2.5 gallons per passenger in third and inter class compartments water shortage has been noticed at times. This to a large measure is due to extravagances on the part of some passengers in the use of water between two consecutive water filling stations.

(d) It is proposed to increase the size of water tanks feeding a single lavatory from 50 to 60 gallons capacity and that of the tanks feeding two adjoining lavatories from 100 to 120 gallons capacity. These are the largest practicable sizes that can be accommodated over the lavatories.

Shri Achuthan: May I know whether there is any proportion between the size of the water tank and the number of passengers that one carriage can contain?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it adjusted according to the number of passengers that a carriage is intended to carry?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, Sir.

Shri Achuthan: In the inter class and the third class?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: At present, the allowance is 4.2 gallons for second class passengers, and 2½ gallons for third and inter class passengers.

Shri Achuthan: Are the Government aware that in the inter class and third class carriages, more passengers travel than in the second class carriages?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So, is it calculated at so much per head?

Shri Achuthan: In the inter class and third class carriages, there are more passengers travelling than in the other classes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They are overcrowded. Is overcrowding also taken into account?

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if Government are aware that the tanks are not filled at the proper places wherever there are watering arrangements?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We are not aware of any such thing happening, but if the hon. Member would bring specific cases to our notice, we will certainly attend to them.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know the reason behind the different proportions between the second class and the third and inter class passengers?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There will be more crowd.

Shri Achuthan: Do the Government intend to increase the number of watering stations on the long routes?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We do not have any such proposal under contemplation at present.

बाढ़ द्वारा हुई हानि

***१०९७. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह:** क्या साहू तथा कुर्बि मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, पश्चिमी बंगाल और गोदावरी जिलों में