

**Shri V. V. Giri:** They have not yet been taken and I assure the hon. Member that I shall give attention to this matter.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know the latest date before which a decision on the recommendations will be finalised?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** I can give no definite date, but, as I have stated, I shall give some attention to this matter immediately.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

**\*550. Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:**

(a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government have examined the observations and recommendations made by the Public Accounts Committee in its Fifth Report in the matter of:

- (i) Government's Agreement with Schliren for manufacture of coaching stocks;
- (ii) adjustment of Rs. 8 lakhs between the Railway and Defence Ministries;
- (iii) pilferage of stores at Kanchrapara due to the negligence of the Deputy General Manager;
- (iv) realisation of Rs. 12 lakhs from the station staff on account of admitted traffic debits; and
- (v) taking over the manufacture of boilers and locomotives from Telco?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken as against each?

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

(b) The position is as follows:—

- (i) Yes and a supplemental agreement has been concluded on the 27th June 1953. Copies of the supplemental agreement have already been sent to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for

being placed on the Table of the House.

- (ii) Out of Rs. 8.64 lakhs due for recovery from the Defence Ministry when the accounts for 1949-50 were considered by the Public Accounts Committee, a major portion has since been recovered, leaving a balance of only Rs. 56 thousand.

- (iii) to (v). The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of Government.

**Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:**

When there was a definite stipulation in the agreement that the firm should manufacture one or two coaches as a specimen and that further production should be undertaken only when they stood the test in India, may I know why these orders were placed before the designs had been completed?

**Shri Alagesan:** All those defects were rectified in the supplemental agreement just now concluded.

**Shrimati A. Kale:** May I know whether all the amounts advanced as advance payments were objected to by the Auditor-General? May I know whether it is a fact that a large amount was advanced to this particular company and that later on it was objected to by the Auditor-General.

**Shri Alagesan:** This was taken into consideration in concluding the supplemental agreement.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether any action is being taken by the Government on the basis of the answer to parts (iii), (iv) and (v)?

**Shri Alagesan:** I have already told the House that the recommendations of the Committee are under the consideration of the Government.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether the Chittaranjan Works are go-

ing to take up the manufacture of boilers and locomotives which are being done by Telco at present?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not exactly know how the question arises.

The Public Accounts Committee have made no such recommendation. They have only said that Government may consider the feasibility of taking over Telco.

Now, we are manufacturing locomotives, boilers and coaches at Chittaranjan and they are being manufactured by Telco also.

**Shri Nambiar:** In view of the fact that Chittranjan is manufacturing and in view of the fact that the Public Accounts Committee said that this should be taken over from Telco, may I know whether the Chittaranjan works can produce the additional locomotives and boilers which are to be taken out of Telco?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** Sir, they cannot do that at Chittaranjan at present because they are producing broad-gauge engines whereas Telco is producing metre-gauge.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether the Deputy General Manager will continue in service, and, if so, in what post?

**Shri Alagesan:** He is still continuing in service but he was already censured. The Committee opined that something more should be done. It is also under the consideration of the Government.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know whether the Government have considered or are considering the advisability of revising the agreement with Telco?

**Shri Alagesan:** I require notice, Sir.

**Dr. Suresh Chandra:** May I know whether before placing an order with this firm the suitability of these

coaches for this country was considered?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, Sir; every factor was taken into consideration.

**Shri T. S. A. Chettiar:** May I know in how many cases action was taken against individuals against whom action was recommended by the Public Accounts Committee?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not know what exactly the hon. Member wants, Sir, but I would be able to give the information after Government have taken action on all these matters.

**Shrimati A. Kale:** What is the total amount of loss suffered by the Government in respect of the factory?

**Shri Alagesan:** Absolutely no loss has been suffered.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether since the publication of the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee there has been any change in the attitude of the authorities of the Telco concern?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is a matter of opinion.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** There was very strong criticism, Sir.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know whether there has been any revision of the pricing policy in regard to the parts and other things supplied by Telco to the railways?

**Shri Alagesan:** Sir, all these things are under consideration of Government and I shall be able to give a fuller answer sometime later.

#### TELEGRAPH OFFICES IN U. P.

\*551. **Shri Raghbir Sahai:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state what progress has been made for connecting District Headquarters with tehsil and police stations in U.P. with telegraph offices during 1952-53?

(b) How the new telegraph offices were distributed as between the urban and rural areas?