

were continued. We proposed finally that premia should be accepted uptill as late as 31st December, 1951. Again, we wanted to extend the date, but they did not accept. All these complications have arisen because Pakistan do not agree to the payment of premia in Indian Post Offices for policies for which they are liable.

**Shri Gidwani:** How will you give them relief if they do not pay and if their policies lapse?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** There is no danger. Whatever premium they are paying in our post offices will be refunded to them in case the Pakistan Government refuses to accept them through the channel of the post offices.

#### DISMANTLED LINES

\*810. **Shri Ram Dass:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the railway lines that were dismantled in India during the last war, and have not been so far re-laid; and

(b) which of them it has been finally decided are not to be re-laid?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) A list of the railway lines dismantled during the last war and not so far re-laid has been placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 61.]

(b) Up-to-date Traffic Appreciation Reports and Estimates of cost of Restoration are being examined and no final decision has so far been reached. One of the dismantled lines, viz., Raipur Forest Tramway was however, owned by the C.P. Government and it is upto the Madhya Pradesh Government to consider its restoration.

**Shri Ram Dass:** May I know what new lines the Government contemplate to lay in the Five Year Plan period in the Punjab?

**Shri Alagesan:** The question of restoring the Rohtak-Gohana-Panipat line is under consideration.

**Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** May I know if the Government have any settled policy regarding the restoration of the railway lines which were taken out during war time?

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know whether Government have any general policy or whether they are taking individual lines into consideration.

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** I have already announced it in my speech in the House the other day. In fact, our policy is to restore as many of them as possible, except those which are found to be wholly unremunerative.

**Shri M. D. Ramasami:** May I know whether the Tirupattur-Krishnagiri dismantled line will be reopened?

**Shri Alagesan:** I think the hon. Member refers to the Morappur-Hosur line. It is in place of that that the extended line from Bangalore to Salem is under consideration.

#### रेलों में चोरियाँ

\*८१२. श्री भागवत दत्त आजाद : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) जनवरी से दिसम्बर, १९५३ तक मालगाड़ी के डिब्बों से माल की चोरी के कितने मामले अधिकारियों के सामने आये ;

(ख) चोरी गये माल का मूल्य कितना था ;

(ग) कितने मूल्य का माल वापिस मिला ; और

(घ) सरकार ऐसी चोरियों को रोकने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The number of thefts of goods from wagons reported to the authorities during January to December, 1954, was 6,882.

(b) Rs. 1776 lakhs approximately.

(c) Rs. 4.88 lakhs approximately.

(d) The more important steps taken to prevent such thefts are:—

- (i) provision of Railway Protection Police for patrolling affected areas notorious for running train thefts and for escorting of wagons carrying vulnerable goods;
- (ii) close liaison between Watch & Ward, Government Railway Police and State Police;
- (iii) Extensive use of Ellis-Patent lock and other special type padlocks for wagons carrying vulnerable commodities.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** How many claims have been filed with the Government, and what is the amount involved?

**Shri Alagesan:** That is another question which involves figures. I do not have the figures with me just now.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** The hon. Minister has given the number of cases of theft. I want to know the number of claims that have been received by Government as a result of these thefts, and the amount involved.

**Mr. Speaker:** He says he has not got the figures at the moment with him. He wants notice for that.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Since there are more than 6,000 cases of such thefts, may I know if any Railway employees are involved in them, and if any of them have been prosecuted?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not have details of all the cases. It is quite likely that some Railway employees are involved, but as far as the number of thefts is concerned, there has been a considerable decrease in 1953 as compared to 1952.

**Shri Barman:** What are the comparative figures for 1952?

**Shri Alagesan:** In 1952 it was 9,154. In 1953 it was 6,882.

**Shrimati Sushama Sen:** May I know if there are more thefts in ladies' compartments than in others?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think we can go to the next question.

#### INDIAN LABOUR CONFERENCE

\*813. **Shri Thimmaiah:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decisions have been taken at the Indian Labour Conference recently held at Mysore; and

(b) if so, what they are?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** The Conference adopted two resolutions; one concerning the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, and the other about the Gorakhpur Labour Scheme. The texts of the Resolutions are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 62.] The Conference also made several suggestions with regard to other items on the agenda.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** From the statement it appears that the manner in which the Minimum Wages Act has been so far implemented should be examined, and a code of directions should be formulated and sent to the State Governments. May I know whether this examination has been done, and the directions have been issued to the State Governments?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Appropriate action is being taken in the matter.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** From the statement, it appears that Government should issue notifications for covering additional employments. May I know the new industries that are proposed to be brought within the purview of this Act?

**Shri Abid Ali:** We are examining this matter.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** May I know whether any decision has been taken with regard to the Gorakhpur Scheme?

**Shri Abid Ali:** We are appointing a tripartite committee for this purpose.