

Shri Raj Bahadur: The question related to the opening of new post offices. For the question now put by the hon. Member, I want separate notice.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the extra departmental anchalmasters who were in service at the time of the integration of the anchal-department with the Postal Department were taken in the postal service?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As many as were found suitable could be absorbed have been taken.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether the then existing postal rates in Travancore-Cochin were expected to be continued even after the financial integration?

Shri Raj Bahadur: They were to be continued only for some time and that too as a special case.

GOODS TRUCKS FROM NETHERLANDS

*1594. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total number and valuation of goods trucks ordered from Netherlands by the Government?

(b) How many have already come to India?

(c) Is it a fact that cheaper trucks were available from other countries?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) 1,000 Metre Gauge Covered Wagons (MC type) were ordered in Netherlands against 1951-52 Programme, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1 crore 80 thousand.

(b) 204 wagons have been received in India upto 31st May 1952.

(c) No.

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय: यह जो खरीदारी की गई है यह रेलवे के जरिये से की गई है या सप्लाय मिनिस्ट्री के जरिये से ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री: जहाँ तक सप्लाय डिपार्टमेंट का ताल्लुक है उस में जो हमारे डाइरेक्टर जनरल लन्दन में रहते हैं उन के जरिये पहले सारी कार्रवाई होती है। उस के बाद फिर रेलवे के अफसरान उस में शामिल होते हैं।

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय: क्या इस खरीदारी के लिये कोई टेंडर भी मांगा गया था।

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री: जी हाँ, टेंडर मांगे गये थे और करीब १९ फ़र्मों ने टेंडर दिये थे।

Shri Velayudhan: May I know who negotiated on behalf of the Government of India for the purchase of these wagons?

Shri L. B. Shastri: The Director-General of the India Stores Department, London, and our Financial Commissioner for Railways.

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय: जो ट्रक्स अभी आने को हैं उन की कब तक आने की उम्मीद है ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री: यह कहना तो मुश्किल है। जिस तरह से पिछली मांगें पूरी हुई हैं वह कुछ बहुत आशाजनक नहीं हैं और उस में काफ़ी देर लगी है।

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय: क्या अपने देश में किसी कम्पनी के जरिये से ट्रक्स बनवाने का प्रबन्ध है ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री: जी हाँ।

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether these wagons were purchased from different firms or from one and the same firm?

Shri L. B. Shastri: From different firms.

INDIAN MERCHANT FLEET

*1595. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what is the number of ships in the Indian Merchant Fleet at present?

(b) How many more are required to meet the requirements of India?

(c) How many ships have been built in India during the last one year with what tonnage and what cost?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) There are at present 108 ships in the Indian Merchant Fleet.

(b) The Shipping Policy Sub-Committee of the Reconstruction Committee estimated that the target of 2 million gross tons of shipping (about 300 ships) would enable Indian shipping to cater for the entire coastal trade and a reasonable share of the near and distant trades.

(c) Two ships of 8,000 deadweight tons each have been built at the ship-building yard at Visakhapatnam since June 1951. The cost of one of these ships is Rs. 62.92 lakhs. The order for the second ship was placed at a fixed price of Rs. 64.65 lakhs with escape clauses in respect of the cost of timber, steel and machineries used in the ship, but the actual total cost has not yet been worked out.

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय: गत वर्ष में कितने जहाज़ खरीदे गये और किन मुल्कों से ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री: यह मैं इस वक्त नहीं बतला सकता ।

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय: गत वर्ष में कितने जहाज़ बेचे गये ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री: हम ने तो यहाँ से कोई ऐसा जहाज़ बेचा नहीं जो हमारे काम आ सके ।

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether any Japanese experts had offered to the Government of India to build ships at a cheaper cost than this?

Mr. Speaker: I distinctly remember an identical question having been put.

Shri Kelappan: What is the percentage of coastal trade that is being carried on by Indian merchant vessels?

Shri L. B. Shastri: About 93 per cent.

श्री धुलेकर: जो जहाज़ हिन्दुस्तान में बनते हैं क्या वह हार्ड सीज़ पर चल सकते हैं या वे केवल कोस्टल एरिया में जाते हैं ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री: जी हाँ, दोनों जगहों पर चलते हैं ।

INTEGRATION OF SERVICES IN STATES

***1597. Shri C. R. Iyyunni:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether the integration of services in the states has been completed; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). The general position regarding integration of services is given in the Report of the Ministry of States for 1951-52, a copy of which has already been supplied to the hon. Member.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: May I know, Sir, when the integration of Travancore-Cochin States took place?

Dr. Katju: There was some correspondence about it; orders were issued on the 9th of April 1952.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: My question was when the integration between Travancore and Cochin took place?

Dr. Katju: My answer was that orders have been issued; the integration will follow immediately.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know, Sir, whether in this matter of integration of services of the various Integrated States, the Government is following only a passive policy, or is the Ministry of States following an active policy?

Mr. Speaker: What is the meaning of the words "passive policy" and "active policy"?

Shri A. M. Thomas: That is to say whether the Ministry of States is taking any initiative in the matter to see that the integration is completed as early as possible.

Dr. Katju: The Ministry of States is concerned that there should be integration; but it is a matter primarily for the State Governments.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the employees of departments which were taken over by the Central Government, like the Income-Tax Department, are given the same conditions of service as are applicable to employees of the same Department of the Central Government?

Dr. Katju: I want notice of that question.