

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: To what extent is this accumulation due to larger production and to what extent is it due to lack of wagons for transport?

Shri K. C. Reddy: It is entirely due to increased production. The number of wagons made available is showing a satisfactory improvement. In fact, in 1951 the wagon supply was better than in 1950, and during the first six months of this year the supply was better than that during the corresponding six months of last year.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether this transport bottleneck has anything to do with the recent regrouping of railways?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Not at all.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What is the average production and relative consumption every month by way of wagons for transport?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I require notice.

Shri B. K. Das: On what basis are the wagon allotments made as between the different States for transport of coal?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The basis is this. The various State industries indent for so many wagons for themselves, and the Coal Commissioner goes through the whole position and then allots the respective number of wagons to each industry.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that the position has deteriorated during the last few months as regards supply of coal to West Bengal?

Shri K. C. Reddy: No, Sir. I am not aware of that. The position has not deteriorated in so far as the supply of wagons is concerned, but if the hon. Member wants to know the position regarding supply in relation to production, I may inform him that the position has somewhat deteriorated.

Shri Heda: Is it a fact that a factory in Hyderabad State was not able to get a single wagon in spite of its representations during the last three months and also in spite of the fact that the supplying colliery happens to be on the same railway line within six hours running distance, resulting in the unemployment of about 6,000 workers?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am not aware of that.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Can the hon. Minister tell us whether in the near future there will be an increase in the supply of wagons?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have already answered that question.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

AID TO CANTONMENT BOARDS

415. Shri N. L. Joshi: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the figures of monetary aid which the various Cantonment Boards in India had been receiving either from the Central or State Governments during the four years preceding the Independence and in the subsequent years upto 1952?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): Two Statements are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 36.]

STATE FORCES PERSONNEL

416. Sardar Hukam Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether any, and if so what, facilities were given to the State Forces personnel who could not be absorbed in the regular Indian Army; and

(b) whether any number out of these has been settled on land in the Punjab?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) The following facilities were given to State Forces personnel who could not be absorbed in the Indian Army:

(1) Employment in Government/Private Service.

(2) Vocational/Technical Training.

(3) Settlement on land in Co-operative Colonies on individual basis. A statement showing the assistance afforded is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 37.]

(b) No.

CORDITE FACTORIES

417. Shri Ganpati Ram: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of various categories of workers employed in all the Cordite Factories in India;

(b) the terms of their wages and allowances according to the nature of their work; and

(c) whether the State Employees Provident Fund Ordinance applies to them and if so, what other facilities are provided to them and their families?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) There is only one Cordite Factory in India and the number of workers employed there is 1,486.