

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS

*1235. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the finding of the enquiry conducted in connection with Jagat Bela explosion on the North Eastern Railway near Gorakhpur?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): The required information is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 36.]

ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह : इस इन्क्वायरी की रिपोर्ट पर सरकार ने अब तक क्या कार्रवाई की ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : अभी तक तो कोई खास कार्रवाई नहीं की है ।

ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह : इन दुर्घटनाओं में लोगों की जान माल को खतरा से बचाने के लिये सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : इस में रेलवे मिनिसट्री यही उम्मीद कर सकती है कि जो कानून है उस को स्ट्रॉन्ग गवर्नमेंट्स और दूसरे आदमी मानेंगे ।

ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह : इन मामलों में पुलिस का कसूर मालूम होने पर सरकार ने उस के खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई की ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : उस पर हम कोई कार्रवाई नहीं कर सकते, सिर्फ अफसास ही जाहिर कर सकते हैं ।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TRAINING IN TELE-COMMUNICATIONS

*1170. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Officers trained abroad so far in order to keep pace with the latest developments in foreign countries in the field of tele-communications; and

(b) whether Government proposes to send any more officers for training in tele-communications?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 57.

(b) Yes, as and when necessary.

GINGER (FIBRE CONTENT)

*1172. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fibre content of the Indian ginger (*Zingibar officinale*) is more than that in the ginger produced in Jamaica and other countries;

(b) whether this factor is responsible for the comparatively lower prices in the world market for Indian ginger; and

(c) what steps, if any, have been taken to minimise the fibre content of Indian ginger?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) No. The prices of Indian ginger are reported to be 20 to 30 per cent. higher than those of foreign qualities of ginger.

(c) The present programme under the Ginger Research Scheme, Madras, provides for a varietal trial which would help in isolating types with low fibre content. Another scheme has also been sanctioned in Assam.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION

*1174. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the cost incurred by India during the year 1954 up to the date for which figures are available, in connection with the Food and Agriculture Organisation?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The Government of India have paid to the Food and Agriculture Organization a sum of Rs. 11,74,268 as annual contribution for the Calendar year 1954.

RAILWAY CORRUPTION ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

*1175. **Shri S. C. Singhal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the replies to the supplementaries on starred question No. 340 asked on the 24th November, 1954 and state:

(a) the expenditure incurred so far on the Railway Corruption Enquiry Committee; and

(b) the amount paid by way of daily and travelling allowances to its members during this period?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Total amount spent so far is Rs. 12,513-8-0 including Rs. 24,612-2-0 paid as daily and travelling allowances to the members.

DEMANDS OF ALL-INDIA BUILDING WORKERS UNION

*1178. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Building Workers' Union have placed certain demands before Government;

(b) if so, what are their demands; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

The Minister of Labour (Shri K. K. Desai): (a) Yes.

(b) The demands are for:

- (i) recognition of the union;
- (ii) a housing scheme for building workers;
- (iii) weekly off with pay;
- (iv) fixing of the work load;
- (v) constitution of a tripartite Labour Board for building workers;
- (vi) departmental action against a contractor, who, it is alleged, habitually harasses and exploits the workers.

(c) The Union has been informed by the Central Public Works Department to represent their grievances to the State Government as these pertain to the workers employed in the building and construction industry by contractors.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*1183. **Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 450 clerks, signallers and Ex-grainshop staff of the Eastern Railway have been reverted to class IV category; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) On the ex-Bengal Nagpur Railway section of the Eastern Railway, recently some 284 non-matriculate clerks of the Grainshop Department and 7 non-matriculate signallers have been reverted to class IV categories. Information in regard to ex-East Indian Railway section is not available.

(b) A total of 885 non-matriculいたes had been temporarily recruited, mainly for grainshop work on the ex-B. N. Railway. The question of absorbing them in permanent posts was examined with due regard to their educational qualifications and quality of work. Those who were found unsuitable for permanent retention in class III have been given alternative employment in class IV, as stated above.

AUXILIARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL

*1184. **Dr. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 537 on the 6th September, 1954 and state the progress made in the scheme for training of Auxiliary Medical personnel in the country?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrīt Kaur): Further consideration has been given to the scheme. In view of conflicting opinions received