

under the Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund; and

(b) the number of houses so far built or under construction under the Subsidized Housing Scheme of the above Fund?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) Most of the mine owners have provided huts of a poor type for the mica mine labourers in the mining area. A few have constructed some pucca buildings also.

Subsidised Housing Labour under the Mica Mine Labour Welfare Fund has recently been liberalised on the lines of the Industrial Housing Scheme which provides a subsidy equal to 25 per cent. of the cost of construction and a loan equal to 37½ per cent. of the cost of construction, subject to certain ceiling limits.

(b) 18.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know what efforts Government have made to impress upon the private owners the need for giving the workers better houses?

**Shri Abid Ali:** That is what I have just stated. The scheme has been liberalised, and it is expected that the mine owners will take advantage of it.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know whether Government have any powers to make these private owners provide better houses for these workers?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Not so far, particularly with regard to the mica mines.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know whether there is any proposal, legislative or otherwise, under the contemplation of Government to see to it that the mica mine workers are housed properly?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Yes, we are considering this.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** May I know whether there is any planning as to the number of houses which will be put up either under the subsidised

housing scheme, or directly by Government, year by year, during the next five years?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Not for the mica section.

### याचिकाओं के लिये सुविधाएँ

\*६७७. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में तीसरे दर्जे के यात्रियों को किस प्रकार की सुविधाएँ दी जायेंगी ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के सभासचिव (श्री शाहनवाज खां): दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में यात्री स्वीधाओं पर खर्च करने के लिये १५ करोड़ रुपया रखा गया है। जिस तरह की सुविधाएँ दी जायेंगी उसका विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [सुविधाएँ परिशिष्ट ४, अनुबन्ध संख्या १२]।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि रेल के तीसरी श्रेणी के डिब्बों में जो पानी पीने के नलके लगाये गये हैं उनके कुछ और डिब्बों में भी आगे बढ़ाने की इस दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में आशा है ?

**Mr. Speaker:** Is there any proposal under consideration, for the improvement of water supply facilities to third class passengers at various stations?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** This is one of the major amenities which we have always in view.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि तीसरे श्रेणी के जो डिब्बे हैं, उनमें पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत और सुधार किया जायेगा ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : अगर माननीय सदस्य का मतलब तीसरे दर्जे में स्लीपिंग एकांमोडेशन से है, तो मैं उनको यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि एक स्कीम स्टैंडर्ड्स आरगनाइजेशन के सामने है और वह द्वाारा डिब्बों को नाप रहे हैं ताकि एक नया नमूना बनाया जा सके जिसमें सोने की आसानी हो।

इसके अलावा तीसरे दर्जे के जो टिकट आम तौर पर बन रहे हैं, वह काफी आरामदाहक हैं और पब्लिक उन्हें काफी पसन्द करती हैं। मरे खयाल में उनमें बदलाव करने का कोई इरादा नहीं है।

**Shri R. S. Diwan:** Are Government thinking that adequate accommodation for third class passengers should be given the first priority over all other facilities?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** That is the thing that we have constantly in view.

#### COMET AIRCRAFT

\*679. **Chaudhri Muhammed Shafiq:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to acquire comets for the Air India International;

(b) if so, the number, type and the cost of the comets proposed to be acquired;

(c) the names of the routes on which they will operate; and

(d) the names of the concerns from which they are proposed to be had?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a), (b) and (d). In December, 1951, Air India International placed an order on De-Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd. U.K., for two comet aircraft, Mark III, DH-100. The basic price of each of these aircraft according to the contract is £740,000. As the House is aware, there have since been some accidents to Comet, Mark I type, aircraft and consequently, the question of the future manufacture of Comets is under review by De-Havilland Aircraft Co. When the full results of this review are known, Air India International will consider whether their earlier order for Comets should be confirmed or not, having regard to the new operational and economic characteristics of these aircraft.

(c) The Comets if and when purchased, will be put on the India-U.K. route.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** In the meantime, have Government considered the necessity of informing these Comet manufacturers that till the orders are confirmed, they should be treated as cancelled?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The contract itself provides for the cancellation of the orders, if they are not confirmed.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Has any step been taken to cancel the orders?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** No step is necessary for that, because the Comets are not under production as such.

#### NEW RAILWAY LINES

##### (QUADIAN TO JULLUNDUR)

\*680. **Sardar Akarpuri:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the railway line from Quadian to Jullundur; and

(b) if so, how long it will take to do so?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**सरदार अकरपुरी :** क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को पता है कि सर जफरुल्ला की मिनिस्ट्री के वक्त यह बटाला का दिया व्यास रेलवे लाइन मंजूर हो चुकी थी और काफी दूर तक बनने के बाद सीक्रेट वर्ल्ड वार की वजह से इसको स्टाॅप कर दिया गया था, तो क्या उस काम को फिर शुरू किया जायगा और लाइन को आगे बढ़ाया जायगा ?

**श्री शाहनवाज खान :** जफरुल्ला खान की वजारात से ले कर अब तक काफी पानी व्यास में बह चुका है और हालात काफी बदल गये हैं।