

रेलवे में हैं जिनके खिलाफ बहुत सी शिकायतें पेश की गई हैं और उसके बाद भी वह लोग आज तक कंटेक्टर्स हैं ?

**श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री :** माननीय मेम्बर की शिकायतों का खयाल मुझे नहीं है । लेकिन अगर यह शिकायतें आपके इलाके में होती हैं तो आपकी भी तो उस के रोकने में कुछ मदद करनी चाहिये ।

**सरदार ए० एस० सहगल :** मैं आप को नाम बता सकता हूँ । झांसी स्टेशन की शिकायतें काफी घर्से से पड़ी हैं तथा कई लोगों के बारे में हैं, लेकिन कोई कार्यवाही तहीं की गई ।

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, order; the hon. Member says:

आप के पास, मेरे पास कहाँ ?

**सरदार ए० एस० सहगल :** आप के पास नहीं, मिनिस्ट्री के पास है ।

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members are always expected to address the Chair. Therefore आपके पास में, तो मेरे पास में कैसे?

**Shri Raghavaiah:** May I know whether Government is aware that in view of the fact that one company is given the monopoly of catering throughout the major portion, if not the whole of the railways in India, the care taken regarding catering of meals and other refreshments is comparatively less good than if catering is done through Annapurna and other services ? May I also know whether the Government propose to take over the whole of catering and give up these contracts?

**Shri Alagesan:** We are very much aware of the evils of monopoly and large holding. Now the policy is to minimise the areas of these caterers and make them more compact and more capable of giving good service.

### Coaches

\*1239. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of III class coaches on the Northern Railway that have been fitted with fans so far; and

(b) the percentage of such coaches to the total number of III class coaches in that Zone ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) 809.

(b) 44% ✓

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know by what time all the coaches employed in the Northern Railway will be fitted with fans ?

**Shri Alagesan :** It was decided that all the new third class coaches should be provided with fans and also all coaches under 20 years of age should be provided with fans, and all womens' compartments without reference to age, should also be provided with fans. As per this criterion, 80 per cent of the compartments have been fitted with fans. Only coaches which are over 20 years of age have been left out.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Is it not a fact that most of the coaches that have been fitted with fans ply on the main line and not on the branch lines and if so, what is the cause of this discrimination between the main line and the branch lines ?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not know whether the information is correct. But the main line is more important and more passengers make use of the main line.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if all the coaches which are used as women's compartments will be equipped with fans even though they are more than 20 years old ?

**Shri Alagesan :** That was what I stated in my reply.

**श्री बुलेकर :** क्या धानरेडुल मिनिस्टर माहब को यह मालूम है कि छोटे छोटे क्या बड़े बड़े स्टेशनों पर भी एलेक्ट्रीशियन नहीं रहते हैं और पंखे बन्द हो जाते हैं और शिकायत करने पर भी कोई पंखों को नहीं चलाता, और २६ तारीख को जी० टी० एक्सप्रेस इस लिये नई दिल्ली स्टेशन पर खड़ी रही कि वहाँ एलेक्ट्रीशियन नहीं था ।

**Shri Alagesan :** I think stoppage of electricity occurs even in residential buildings in Delhi.

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** And in this House also.

### Indian Shipping

\*1241. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement of the President of the All India

Exporters' Association made at a meeting of the Association held on the 18th May, 1955, complaining that India's export trade was seriously handicapped by shipping difficulties; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken to tide over these difficulties?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Government have seen the statement referred to.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 16]

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** What attempts are being made by the Government to remove the non-availability of shipping space for export cargo as referred to in the statement?

**Shri Alagesan:** Whenever complaints have been made, we have asked the shipping companies to meet the shippers and see that such complaints do not arise and also to help the shippers as much as possible.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** In the absence of any statutory power, as referred to in the statement, do Government propose to have some such powers or what attempts are being made by Government to remove the discriminatory policy being followed by the foreign companies?

**Shri Alagesan:** Evidently, the hon. Member refers to the allegation that the foreign shipping companies levy discriminatory freights. That is now being gone into and we have asked for details. An Officer on Special Duty in the Directorate General of Shipping is going into this question and finding out how far the allegations are true.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know whether in the light of the improved port facilities provided by the Government of India these conference companies have now decided to drop the threatening attitude of levying surcharge on the goods?

**Shri Alagesan:** I think almost all the foreign companies—I mean the Shipping Conference lines have decided to withdraw the surcharge, though the USA-India line has been postponing it from month to month. But, I have reason to believe that they will postpone it indefinitely.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** One of the serious charges that have been levelled against these is discriminatory freight rates.

In view of the fact that we cannot legislate with regard to overseas trade, may I know whether Government have taken up this matter on an international level with other Government?

**Shri Alagesan:** All the shipping companies are private companies. I have already answered that an Officer on Special Duty in the Directorate General of Shipping is at present seized of the question and is examining how far the allegations made are true. After his report is received, we will be able to take some concrete steps.

**Shri Dhulekar:** There was a conference at New York only recently and there the postponement for increased surcharge of 35 per cent had been made only for one month, that is from 15th September to 15th October. May I know what steps the Government of India will take so that the surcharge may be postponed permanently?

**Shri Alagesan:** The Shipping Lines are aware of the Government's position on this matter and, as I said, I have every reason to believe that they will postpone it indefinitely.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Question Hour is over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Sugar Yield

\*1207. **Shri Ibrahim:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the average percentage yield of sugar for this year has been greater than that of the last year; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) No. The average all-India percentage recovery of sugar in 1954-55 was 9.98 as against 10.07 in 1953-54.

(b) Does not arise.

##### Dismantled Railway Lines

\*1208. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the mileage of dismantled railway lines restored during 1954-55; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred thereon?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 17].