

(e) whether the alternative suggestion of the Guards and Drivers has been considered; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to give work to the Drivers and Guards rendered idle as a result of the new scheme?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

(e) Yes.

(f) The Drivers and Guards of Jhajha are fully employed and, therefore, the question of their being rendered idle does not arise.

#### Madhopur-Garhara Goods Link

2725 Shri Nihal Singh:  
Shri Ham Sewak Yadav;  
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of the introduction of the new goods link (Madhopur-Garhara Link), the drivers residing at Jhajha are required to do continuous duty for long hours ranging from 12 hours to 18 hours or more,

(b) whether any representation has been made to the Divisional Superintendent, Danapur (Eastern Railway) by the Drivers against such long hours of duty,

(c) if so, the action of Government thereto; and

(d) whether Government propose to abolish the new goods link and find other more effective ways of achieving economy?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(d) No.

#### Coal Checkers on Railways

2726. Shri Nihal Singh:  
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board had directed on the 9th October, 1957 that Coal Checkers be considered part of the clerical cadre and be upgraded in terms of the Board's letter No. E(S)-157CPC/40 of the 1st March, 1951,

(b) whether the Checkers have not only been not upgraded but in Danapur Division (ER) have actually been downgraded, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha in due course.

#### Battery Trucks in Jamalpur Railway Workshop

2727. Shri Nihal Singh:  
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state.

(a) whether battery trucks have been introduced or sought to be introduced in Jamalpur workshop, E.R.;

(b) whether Auto Truck Drivers have been asked to operate them on the same scale and in the semi-skilled category;

(c) whether the Auto Truck Drivers have demanded classification of Battery Truck Drivers job as skilled on the ground that this truck has to be driven standing; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Battery trucks have been recently provided.