

valued at Rs. 3.10 lakhs for import of Motor Vehicle parts were issued to the Poona Municipal Transport Committee during the years 1957 to 1965.

(b) Licences were issued in favour of the Transport Manager, Poona Municipal Transport Undertaking.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) As a result of investigations made by the Central Bureau of Investigation, necessary sanction for launching prosecution under Section 5 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 has been accorded.

Irregular Supply of Wagons at Bellampally (S.C. Railway)

*720. Shri M. N. Reddy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that due to the acute shortage and irregular supply of wagons in Bellampally of the South-Central Railway a large stock of coal worth more than Rs. 2 crores has accumulated causing great loss and inconvenience to all concerned;

(b) the steps taken to ease the situation and minimise the loss; and

(c) the causes for the non-allocation of wagons in Bellampally and the action proposed to be taken against the defaulting officials?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes, Sir. There was some shortage in the supply of wagons to the Bellampally colliery in recent months, leading to a certain amount of accumulation of coal at the pithead.

(b) Effective steps are being taken for stepping up coal loading in Singareni colliery including Belampalli coalfield. Four additional diesel engines have recently been allotted to South Central Railway for stepping up loading from this coalfield. In addition, steps have also been taken to improve the flow of empty wagons to

the South Central Railway for coal loading.

(c) The drop in coal loading in Belampalli area resulting in increase in their pit-head stock was chiefly on account of the following factors.

(i) Disturbances in Andhra Pradesh during November, 1956.

(ii) Strike of Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board workers in February, 1967 affecting the operation of the Railways.

(iii) Reduced loading in February, 1967 due to holidays on account of General Elections.

(iv) Dislocation caused by heavy and unplanned movements of imported and indigenous food-grains from Madras and Andhra Pradesh.

Substitute Workers at Jhajha and Jamalpur Railway Workshops

3369. Shri Deven Sen:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a large number of workers at Jhajha and Jamalpur workshops, Eastern Railway who are called substitute workers;

(b) if so, their number and their average period of service; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railway Administration to give them permanent employment/security of service?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

Invention of Mechanical Plough

3370. Shri E. K. Nayanar: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director, Invention Promotion Board