गाड़ी के साथ चलने वाले बिजली फिटर ने तुरन्त प्रभावित सर्किट को अलग कर दिया और 14 मिनट एके रहने के बाद गाड़ी वहां से चल पड़ी।

ACCOMMODATION FOR CLASS III STAFF

5609. SHRI SURAJ BHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Class III staff in the grade of Rs. 210-320 are entitled to better type of railway accommodation;
- (b) whether staff in grade Rs. 205-380 are not entitled to this type of accommodation;
- (c) if so, the reasons for treating them differently from staff in grade Rs. 210-320; and
- (d) whether steps to remove this anomaly are under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) to (d). As per existing rules, all class III staff, who are in scales, the minimum of which are below Rs. 210/- are eligible for type II quarters, while those who are in scales, the minimum of which are Rs. 210/- and above and maximum Rs. 425/- or below are eligible for type III quarters. Accordingly staff in the scale of Rs. 210-320 are eligible for type III quarters, while staff in the grade of Rs. 205-380 are eligible for type II quarters. The question as to whether the existing rules should be amended so as to make the staff in the scale of Rs. 205-380 eligible for type III quarters is under consideration.

Machinery Supplied by US Firm to a Gear Factory

5610. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:

> SHRI UMANATH: SHRI P. GOPALAN: SHRI A. K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in *Indian Express*, dated the 27th November, 1967 that a Gear factory set up with the assistance of Agency for Industrial Development Finance has been supplied with Junk passed of as machinery by a U.S.A. firm;

- (b) if so, the name of the firm and the total amount of contract:
- (c) whether it is a fact that some officials of the Agency for Industrial Development Finance are involved; and
- (d) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with the U.S.A. Government and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The name of the foreign firm is M/s. Napco Industries Inc., U. S. A. and the purchase price of the machinery supplied by the foreign firm is \$ 2.8 million.
  - (c) Government have no such information.
  - (d) Does not arise.

## AGITATION BY RAILWAY GUARDS OF N. E. RAILWAY, VARANASI

5611. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Guards of North Eastern Railway, Varanasi have launched an agitation against the transfer of almost all of them by the Divisional Traffic Superintendent, Varanasi to other centres;
- (b) whether as a part of this agitation there was a mass hunger strike by the Guards from the 24th October, 1967 to 4th November, 1967 in protest against the D. Y.T.S's. attitude:
- (c) the reasons, if any, for this mass transfer of Guards; and
- (d) the action Government contemplate to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) Only 9 out of 156 Guards of the Varanasi Division were transferred. Six of these Guards started agitation against their transfer.

- (b) It is reported that few of them resorted to token fasting in batches outside the Railway premises from 14.00 hrs. on 24-10-67. The agitation ended on 4-11-67.
- (c) The transfer orders were issued for administrative reasons.