

stopped the Ranchi Patna Express in a dense jungle near Chandrapura Railway Station on 23rd September, 1970 and by holding the Driver and the Guard at the point of a gun, completely ransacked the brake van and took away goods and packages worth over Rs. 2 lakhs ;

(b) the names of persons besides the Driver and the Guard who have testified the dacoity ; and

(c) the precise investigations done in this crime so far ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : (a) On the night of 22.9.1970 about 20 miscreants armed with spears and lathies stopped the train No. 24 Dn. (Hatia/Patna Express) at Down Outer Signal of Rajabera station on Muri-Chandrapura Section of South Eastern Railway and forcibly snatched from the Guard and the Conductor the keys of the luggage van, broke it open and removed 17 packages approximately valued at Rs. 1800/- and not Rs. two lakhs.

(b) and (c). The case is still under Police investigation.

Post-War Reconstruction Housing Scheme 219 in Gujarat

2001. SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Post-War Reconstruction Housing Scheme, 219 which is not in operation now is proposed to be put in operation again and with higher ceiling of Rs. 10,000 in urban areas and Rs. 6,000 in rural areas for construction of houses for each individual member ; and

(b) whether subsidy at the rate of Rs. 5 is proposed to be increased to Rs. 20 per sq. yard to purchase land for the said type of societies specially meant for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Government of Gujarat and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as it is received.

Purchase of Railway Wagons

2002. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway wagons which the Railway Ministry propose to purchase during the current year ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the wagon industry had a backlog of orders for 14,553 wagons in April, 1970 ;

(c) what is the number of wagons on the order book of the wagon industry at present ; and

(d) in what period the industry would be able to meet these orders ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : (a) Against 1970-71 wagon building programme, offers for 11,181 wagons (in terms of 4-wheelers) were made to the wagon builders in private sector, out of which offers for 7,466 wagons (in terms of 4-wheelers) have been accepted by them so far.

(b) Yes.

(c) As on 1-10-1970, wagon industry in the private sector had orders for 16,899.5 wagons (in terms of four wheelers) available for execution.

(d) The date of completion of deliveries of wagons will vary from firm to firm depending upon the performance of the individual firm. However, in the orders placed against the 1970-71 wagon programme, date of completion of delivery has been stipulated as 30-6-1971.

Expenditure on Officers of Law Ministry in Connection with Election Petition against President Giri's Election

2003. SHRI ABDUL GHANI DAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Officers of his Ministry attended the proceedings of the Supreme Court in connection with the petition against Shri V. V. Giri's selection as President and, if so, their names and duties, separately ;

(b) the reasons therefor ; and

(c) how much amount was spent on those officers who attended the Court and those who rendered their services to Shri V. V. Giri ?