

(c) the steps Government propose to take to keep up the exports ?

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA):** (a) to (c). As there are many imponderables it is not possible to quantify the overall impact of UK's entry into the European Economic Community on our exports.

We are continuing with our efforts to secure greater access for our products to the enlarged European Common Market. We have also been impressing upon both U. K. and the European Economic Community the need for their taking measures to safeguard the markets for all Indian products for which conditions of access might deteriorate following UK's membership of the Common Market. An aide memoire was handed over to the British Government on the 21st February 1972 in this connection identifying the important commodities of export interest to us in respect of which problems would arise following the UK's accession to the E. E. C.

**Scrutiny of Travelling Allowance Bills,  
Northern Railway**

**1. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY :**  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the rules governing the claim, checking and payment of Travelling allowance Bill submitted by Railway Officials;

(b) whether the Travelling Allowance bills are subject to scrutiny before actual payment and if so, whether claiming an amount not found due under rules constitutes an offence making officials liable for disciplinary action; and

(c) if so, the names of officials against whom disciplinary action has been initiated on this account during the period January, 1970 to December, 1971 on Allahabad Division of Northern Railway ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) :** (a) to (c). Travelling Allowance is payable to Railway servants who proceed on tour be-

yond a radius of 8 KMs. from the Headquarter or return from a similar distance.

Railway servants are expected to submit their T. A. claims within a period of three months from the end of the month in which the journey is performed. Any claim submitted after the expiry of this period should be supported by adequate reasons for the delay. Whenever a travelling allowance bill is preferred in a month subsequent to the month in which it should have been submitted, a certificate in the following form be recorded on the travelling allowance bill by the drawing officer:—

“Certified that the arrear claims included in this bill have not been submitted previously.”

The touring official has to obtain the permission of his controlling officer before proceeding on tour. The Travelling Allowance bills indicate *inter-alia* the time of departure from headquarters, halt at each place, purpose of the tour etc.

The Travelling allowance journals submitted by the touring officials have to be sent along with the bills to the accounts office for internal check in the case of employees who are drawing a pay of Rs. 240/- and above including Dearness pay, a month. In the case of those who are drawing less than Rs. 240/- a month, the Travelling allowance journals are retained by the bill compiling offices. The Travelling allowance journals received in the Accounts Office are checked to see that.

(a) the journals have in every case been countersigned by the competent Controlling Officer.

(b) sanctions of competent authority to the grant of special allowance exist.

(c) authority for travelling beyond the jurisdiction exists.

(d) certificate for steamer/air companies, for Sea Air journey is attached.

(e) In the case of gazetted officers, pay shown in travelling allowance Bill tallies with those shown in Salary Registers or

relevant pay slip;

- (f) in the case of non-gazetted officers, apart from the test check of T. A. Bills with the pay bills at the time of periodical inspections, pay shown in T. A. Bill does not exceed the maximum pay of the grade of the post held and a post check conducted to the correctness of pay shown to the extent of 10% of items in T. A. Bill with reference to the regular pay Bills;
- (g) the details have been given where the employee is entitled to draw actual expenses;
- (h) distance by road be compared, where feasible, with the local route book and railway fares with the railway guide.

Even in the case of those who are drawing pay up to Rs. 240/- a month, the travelling allowance bills are checked by the bill passing authority (Personnel Branch) before making payment.

Claiming an amount which is found to be inadmissible is not treated as an offence under the Discipline and Appeal rules. Disciplinary action is liable to be taken only in cases where an employee makes a deliberate false statement to claim travelling allowance. There has been no case, during the period January, 1970 to December, 1971, on the Allahabad Division of Northern Railway where disciplinary action has been initiated for having claimed an amount not admissible under the rules.

#### Traffic handled at Tundla Goods Shed

2. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the traffic handled at Tundla Goods Shed as per individual operative items of Shedule by the Cooperative Society holding the Handling Contract during the period 15th July, 1970 to December, 1971, monthwise separately;

(b) whether Government are aware certain important items of the Schedule have been systematically manipulated to the disadvantage of the Railway Administration in collusion with Railway Employees to realise undue payments by the above Society, and

(c) if so, the extent to which these systematic manipulations have resulted in undue payment of handling charges to the above mentioned period ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library : See No. LT—1403/71]

(b) No.

(c) Question does not arise.

#### Utilization of H. O. R. Quota (Northern Railway)

3. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the rules regarding utilization of H. O. R. Quota earmarked to the Divisions for allotment of berths by certain trains;

(b) whether the Railway Officials on leave are permitted to avail H. O. R. Quota while travelling on Complimentary Cheque Passes; and

(c) whether H. O. R. Quota can be availed of by an Officer while on leave for himself under his own orders ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). Accommodation on High Officials Requisition Forms is made available generally on 'first come, first served' basis against the H. O. R. quota of a few berths in Airconditioned and First Classes maintained on certain important trains. This quota is controlled by a senior Railway Officer. The quota if not utilized by the High Officials entitled to it up to a prescribed time before the departure of the train, is allotted to Members of Parliament, Press Correspondents accredited to the