

pleted. The contractor took excessive time in completing the documents and finally backed out.

(c) The erstwhile contractor M/s Vinai & Co. continued to operate the contract from 15-8-1972 to 31-1-1977. The annual value of the contract was Rs. 37,000.

(d) No. The increased rates as a result of the fresh tenders are not applicable to the erstwhile contractor.

(e) The earnest money in respect of M/s Raza & Co. who were required to work the contract in 1974 could not be forfeited as the scheduled time limit for forfeiture of earnest money had elapsed. The lapse is being taken up.

Delay in Inviting Fresh Tender for Cycle Stand at Kanpur during 1975

5787. SHRI VINAYAK PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the date from which the cycle stand contract at Kanpur Central Station was awarded in favour of M/s. Dinesh & Co., on the valuation of Rs. 1,11,000/- as a result of open tenders invited in the year 1975;

(b) whether the earnest money deposited by the successful tenderer was immediately forfeited as the Contractor did not turn up to commence the work from the stipulated time and date mentioned in the contract award letter;

(c) whether case of loss to Railway revenue owing to failure on the part of officers in delaying the calling of tenders has been taken up by the Audit Officer; and

(d) if so, who are the Officers/Officials found responsible for this loss to railway revenue?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) The cycle stand contract at Kanpur Central Station was awarded in

favour of M/s Dinesh & Co. on the valuation of Rs. 1,11,000 with effect from 15-5-1975.

(b) The contractor had insisted on completion of certain engineering works before starting the contract. Even after the completion of these works, the contractor did not start the work on one plea or the other. As such his contract was cancelled and the earnest money was forfeited in November, 1976.

(c) and (d). The matter was taken up by Audit who were apprised of the factual position.

Re-Examination of Demurrage Statement during 1974-75

5788. SHRI JAGDAMBI PARSAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of demurrage charges raised against the Co-operative Societies holding Goods handling contracts at Allahabad, Juhi TPT, Kanpur Central Goods Shed, Tundla, Mirzapur and Naini during the period January, 1974 to May, 1977 year-wise separately;

(b) whether the Cooperative Societies disputed the correctness of demurrage charges raised against them; and

(c) whether recoveries of demurrage charges raised during the period mentioned in part (a) above were stayed in case of other Cooperative Societies and Commercial and Accounts Officers were deputed to re-examine the demurrage statements prepared by station staff as was done in case of Naini Goods Shed, where demurrage charges were correctly raised by the staff during the year 1974 on the basis of station records?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.