

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, its extent in wagon loads at various loading stations in the District;

(c) whether it is a fact that only one day in a week is allotted for the movement of such non-priority commodities;

(d) whether it is also a fact that for obtaining wagons against registrations six to nine months are generally required;

(e) if the period is not so long, what is the ordinary period;

(f) whether the Karnatak Chamber of Commerce, Hubli had requested the Railway authorities to allow three days in a week for speedy clearance;

(g) whether the request has been turned down; and

(h) if the answer to parts (f) and (g) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) and (b). The average arrears of registrations of non-priority traffic at the various stations in the Hubli District during the period from 10-4-52 to 10-7-52 was 6,339 wagon-loads as against 6,803 during the corresponding period of last year.

(c) While one day in a week is allotted for the supply of wagons for non-preferential traffic generally, except for a few items of the more important preferential traffic, wagons are supplied for non-preferential traffic on other days also if any wagons are left over after fully meeting the requirements of the registrations of the preferential traffic.

(d) and (e). The period varies at each station according to wagon availability vis-a-vis the registrations consistent with their comparative order of priority. In the case of certain commodities like firewood, in which the traffic offering is heavy, and some other commodities requiring the use of special type of stock, the period at present does extend to months.

(f) Yes.

(g) and (h). Consistent with the wagon availability for preferential traffic, it has not yet been found feasible to provide transport for the non-preferential traffic to a larger measure without detriment to the movement of essential traffic.

LOADING CAPACITIES AT GHORPURI AND HOTGI

649. **Shri Datar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of transshipment capacities in wagon loads per working day at Ghorpuri and Hotgi Stations on Southern Railways;

(b) whether this extent of the capacity is inadequate for coping with the heavy traffic that has to pass through these transshipment points in Hubli District;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the extent of the inadequacy;

(d) whether any restrictions have been placed on loadings at various stations in the District, due to the limited transshipment capacity at the above points;

(e) whether the Karnatak Chamber of Commerce has been requesting Railway authorities repeatedly for the last seven years for increasing the loading capacities at the above stations; and

(f) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government to remove this bottle-neck?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) to (c). The present inadequate daily transshipment capacity, in terms of wagon-loads, at Ghorpuri and Hotgi and the extent to which it should be augmented to appreciably ease the position is as follows:—

Station	Existing capacity		Capacity required for appreciably easing the movement of traffic,	
	Broad Gauge	Metre Gauge	Broad Gauge	Metre Gauge
Ghorpuri	50	65	60	85
Hotgi	28	35	30	45

(d) The loading at stations in the District is regulated so that the flow of traffic is consistent *interalia* with the transshipment capacities. In the event of any congestion or other unforeseen operational difficulties, the movement of traffic is further restricted, the duration of the restriction being kept down to the minimum.

(e) and (f). A number of representations have been received for stepping up the quantum of movement of traffic via these transshipment stations. The feasibility of increasing the capacity is under active consideration and suitable action as may be

feasible will be taken to improve movements.

BARSI LIGHT RAILWAY

650. **Shri Datar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Barsi Light Railway have no adequate supply of engines, wagons and coaches for meeting its daily requirements;

(b) whether this deficiency leads to infinite hardships and stranding of passengers during the pilgrimage seasons at Pandharpur;

(c) whether it is a fact that at the last Ashadha Ekadashi festival 10,000 pilgrims were held up due to disorders in 4 engines of the Railways; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) The Barsi Light Railway have an adequate number of locomotives and goods wagons to meet normal daily requirements, but there is a shortage of third class coaches to meet full requirements.

(b) Yes. Some inconvenience is caused to passengers during the pilgrim traffic season.

(c) About 1,000 (and not 10,000) pilgrims were held up at Batur Railway Station for 8 hours as a result of an engine failure.

(d) The incident referred to in (c) being due to an engine failure which could not be attributed to carelessness on the part of the Railway Company, no question of taking any action arises in this particular case. When however, any condition on incidents call for the attention of the Government the matter is suitably pursued with the Company.

SPECIAL POLICE ESTABLISHMENT

651. **Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many commendation certificates were issued by the Home Ministry to:

(1) officials in Special Police Establishment and others separately, and

(2) non-officials, who helped in Special Police Establishment cases since 1947;

(b) how many officials and non-officials were awarded cash prizes for assisting in the investigation of Special Police Establishment cases since 1947;

(c) how many Indian Police Medals and other similar rewards were awarded to members (rank-wise) of the Special Police Establishment since 1947 for their meritorious services rendered in Special Police Establishment cases; and

(d) who were the Special Police Establishment Officers who were awarded Indian Police Medals and bars to Indian Police Medals since 1947?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) None.

(b) (1) Officials.....316

(2) Non-officials.....43.

(c) and (d). Four medals were awarded as per statement placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 18.]

GHEE ADULTERATION COMMITTEE

652. **Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Ghee Adulteration Committee has been published;

(b) if not, by what time it will be published; and

(c) whether Government will lay a copy of the report along with the notes of dissent on the Table of the House?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) Not yet.

(b) The report is still under consideration of the Government of India. Decision regarding its publication and steps to be taken for the implementation of the decision will be taken up shortly.

(c) Copies of the report along with the notes of dissent will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as Government have taken a decision regarding the same.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

653. **Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how much money Government have spent so far on the 'Grow More Food' campaign since 1945;

(b) how much money out of the said amount has been spent on animal husbandry;

(c) whether Government have spent any money for animal husbandry before the year 1951 in connection with the campaign;