

Cause	Number of accidents
(v) A timber merchant cutting a tree by the side of the railway line without taking precautions to see that it did not fall on a running train.	1
TOTAL	7

The approximate cost of damage to engines, rolling stock and permanent way involved in these accidents amounted to Rs. 2,32,000.

(c) In accordance with Section 82B to J of the Indian Railways Act, 1890, and the Rules made thereunder, Claims Commissioners are appointed to enquire into and determine claims for compensation arising out of accidents to trains carrying passengers and their decisions are final, except that the aggrieved claimants can appeal to the High Court. In the case of major accidents Claims Commissioners are specially appointed while in the case of minor accidents the local judicial or magisterial officers act as *ex-officio* Claims Commissioners to deal with claims arising out of such accidents within their respective jurisdiction. A Claims Commissioner has been appointed solely in connection with the first mentioned accident under part (a) above, as it is a major accident. The Claims Commissioner has so far decreed and paid compensation to the extent of about Rs. 56,000/- in respect of this accident. The other accidents are minor ones.

T.B. AMONG EMPLOYEES OF CALCUTTA PORT COMMISSIONERS

217. **Shri Tushar Chatterjee:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether the Government of India are aware that incidence of T.B. has been increasing among the employees of the Calcutta Port Commissioners?

(b) What is the number of T.B. cases that came to the knowledge of the Port Commissioners, year by year, during the past five years?

(c) Is it a fact that in all such cases the staff contacted T.B. after entering the Commissioners' service and that staff doing out-door and different turns of duty including night duty are principally the victims of the disease?

(d) What arrangements have the Port Commissioners made for proper treatment of those of their staff who are suffering from T.B.?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). A record of T.B. cases among

their employees is being maintained by the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta from May 1949 onwards. A statement showing the number of employees suffering from T.B. in each year *vis-a-vis* the total number of employees is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) As all the employees of the Port Commissioners are required to produce at the time of their appointment a certificate of physical fitness from the Commissioners' Chief Medical Officer, it can only be presumed that the employees concerned contracted T.B. after entering the Port service. The incidence of the disease is, however, not confined only to staff doing outdoor or shift duties, but also extends to the other employees on permanent day duty. Out of the 157 employees suffering from T.B. in 1951, only 86 were on shift duty.

(d) The Calcutta Port Commissioners maintain at their cost 15 beds in the Jadabpur and 4 beds in the Kanchrapara T.B. Hospitals for their employees. A recurring expenditure of Rs. 35,000/- *per annum* is incurred by them on this account in addition to an initial expenditure of Rs. 7,000/-. The Commissioners also bear the cost of expensive drugs like streptomycin and P.A.S. in all cases where their employees are victims of T.B. and render financial assistance from their Welfare Fund to such employees in cases of hardship.

STATEMENT

The number of T.B. Cases among the Calcutta Port Commissioners employees during the period May 1949 to October 1952.

Year	No. of employees suffering from T. B.	Total number of employees.
1949 (May to December—eight months).	27	28,244
1950	115	28,058
1951	157	28,186
1952 (January to October—ten months).	158	28,382

FOOD GIFTS

218. **Shri Babakrishnan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of food gifts sent by foreign countries to India in the year 1952 up to 31st October;

(b) the quantity of food gifts sent by each Government; and