

## CALCUTTA-KALKA MAIL

1363. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any coach for passengers holding third class tickets for Rupar, used to be attached to the Calcutta Kalka Mail; and

(b) since when it was discontinued and why?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Prior to 15-11-52 a coach consisting of inter and third class accommodation used to run by the Calcutta-Kalka Mail from Delhi to Ambala and onwards from Ambala to Nangal Dam (including Rupar) by 1 URN Passenger.

(b) From 15-11-52, this coach was replaced by a composite coach consisting of first, second and inter class accommodation, as a result of poor utilization of third class accommodation in the through service coach and also due to repeated requests for provision of upper class accommodation in the through service coach between Delhi and Nangal Dam. From 16-4-53 a composite coach consisting of second and inter class accommodation only is running between Delhi and Nangal Dam.

## MURDERS ON NORTHERN RAILWAY

1364. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of murders committed on the Northern Railway during the year 1952?

(b) How many of them have been traced?

(c) What steps have been taken to prevent such murders?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) 4.

(b) 3.

(c) Steps taken include provision of armed police patrol and police in plain clothes on all important Mail and passenger trains and frequent checking of safety fittings provided on the windows and doors of carriages.

## LOADING OF WAGONS FROM RAIPUR RAILWAY STATION

1365. **Shri B. N. Misra:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the free time allowed for loading a wagon at the Raipur goods shed in Eastern Railway?

(b) Is it a fact that at Raipur railway station booking of full loads in covered and uncovered wagons, is totally stopped, for all kinds of goods and for all directions?

(c) If so, what are the reasons for that?

(d) Is it a fact that at Raipur there is no short supply of wagons after meeting the demands of Government?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Six day-light hours.

(b) No, it is not a fact that at Raipur railway station booking of full loads in covered wagons is totally stopped for all kinds of goods and for all directions. In March, 1953, a total of 419 wagons were allotted at Raipur for goods traffic. During the first 9 days of April, 1953, a total of 114 wagons were also allotted at the same station.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No. At Raipur station, there has been a shortage of wagons from time to time after meeting the demands of Government.

## HELICOPTERS

1366. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the cost of a helicopter?

(b) How many passengers and how much luggage can each helicopter carry?

(c) What is the cost of running a helicopter service for a distance of about 300 miles a day?

(d) What are its requirements in personnel landing ground and other technical equipments?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The cost of a helicopter might range between Rs. 200,000/- and 700,000/- or more ex-works, depending on its type and capacity.

(b) This depends on the type of helicopter. A Hiller-360 can carry a pilot, two passengers and 250 lbs. of baggage, while a Sikorsky S-55 can carry 2 pilots and 10 passengers besides luggage.

(c) The direct operation cost of the Hiller-360 helicopter or an equivalent type would be about Rs. 200/- per flying hour if it flies a distance of about 300 miles a day. The corresponding cost for Sikorsky S-55 would be about Rs. 465/- per flying hour.