

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) So far as the lighthouses directly administered by the Central Government are concerned, no spare parts were imported during 1952-53. In so far as the lighthouses administered by the State Governments and other local authorities are concerned, the information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) and (c). Most of the spare parts required for the proper maintenance and upkeep of the lighthouses are already being manufactured in the Lighthouse Workshops at Madras and Bombay. It is the intention to develop these workshops so that all spare parts can be manufactured in the country though in the case of lenses and other optical equipment it will take us quite a long time to do so.

#### RECRUITMENT OF SEAMEN

\*291. **Shri Jethalal Joshi:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to expand the recruiting and training facilities for sea-men in order to encourage the development of Indian shipping;

(b) whether they propose to open one more training centre in Saurashtra; and

(c) if so, when the proposal is likely to materialise?

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

(b) and (c). A proposal to start a training centre in Saurashtra is under consideration. It is, however, difficult to say at this stage when it is likely to materialise.

#### PASSENGER AND GOODS EARNINGS

\*292. **Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Railway goods earnings have improved during the year 1952-53?

(b) If so, to what extent?

(c) What is the position of passenger earnings during the year 1952-53?

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

(b) Goods earnings during 1952-53 amounted to Rs. 146.13 crores against Rs 140.48 crores (excluding freight on carriage of railway coal and materials) in 1951-52.

(c) The passenger earnings during 1952-53 amounted to Rs. 100.36 crores against Rs. 109.88 crores during 1951-52.

#### DIVERSION OF S.S. 'Muzaffari' FROM COLOMBO

\*293. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the freighter named 'Muzaffari' was diverted from Colombo to Bombay with 7,300 tons of Chinese rice; and

(b) whether the rice has been imported by India or it is by way of repayment of rice loan obtained by Ceylon from India in the year 1952?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes Sir. Steamer *Muzaffari* was diverted by the Government of Ceylon from Colombo to Bombay, where she discharged its entire cargo of about 7019 tons of Chinese rice.

(b) This rice was received in part replacement of about 14986 tons rice supplied to the Ceylon Government on loan in September/November, 1952.

#### INDIAN SHIPPING COMPANIES

\*294. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the reasons which have led