

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):**

(a) It is understood from Cochin Port Trust that there were certain allegations regarding dry docking of the water barge "M.V. Tapaj" and the fire float "Bahadur" at the workshop of the Cochin Marine Corporation Dry Dock. The alleged misuse of materials drawn was fully investigated by the Vigilance Section of the Port Trust. An expert was summoned from M/s. Mazagaon Dock Ltd. Bombay, and a surprise inspection was carried out on 17th April, 1980 at the Dry Dock of M/s. Cochin Marine Corporation. All the plates changed on the vessel "M. V. Tapaj" as per drawings were measured and found correct and thus the allegation was found baseless. The fire float "M. V. Bahadur" was also dry docked and a similar inspection was carried out by the same expert on 18th April, 1980. All the plates were measured and it tallied with the drawings.

(b) The financial implication of the docking of the two vessels was reported by the Chief Mechanical Engineer of the Port Trust as Rs. 1,23,920 excluding other connected works, such as, cleaning, painting, replacement of plates, etc. Subsequent to the issue of sanction for dry docking the two vessels at the Cochin Marine Corporation, a Report was received from Chief Mechanical Engineer about the details of expenditure incurred in connection with the dry docking and repair of the vessels. This amounted to Rs. 3,82,000/- for "M.V. Bahadur" and Rs. 3,05,200/- for "M.V. Tapaj". The circumstances that led to the increase in the expenditure are being examined by the Cochin Port Trust. Ever, only a sum of Rs. 1,00,200/- has so far been paid to the firm as per the sanction originally issued.

(c) and (d). It is understood from Cochin Port Trust that the matter is under verification by the Central Bureau of Investigation. Since the CBI's Report has not yet been

received, the question of taking any action by the Port Trust against any officer has to await the findings, if any, of the CBI.

#### Complaints against Railway staff at Phillaur

4554. CHOUHARY SUNDER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any complaints against Railway staff posted at Phillaur District, Jullundur (Punjab); and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under investigation.

#### Incidences of Encephalitis, Gastro-enteritis and Infantile Paralysis

4555. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHYADASAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidence of encephalitis, gastro-enteritis, infantile paralysis is on the increase; and

(b) if so, what has been the toll of each such disease from 1st June, 1978 to 1st January, 1980?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) From the available information, there is no such evidence.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Government intervention in Industrial Dispute of EPF Organisation

4556. SHRIMATI SUSHEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state whether the Central Government is the appropriate authority to intervene in the industrial dispute of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation?