

**Coal Pilferage during Transit**

2061. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is large-scale pilferage of coal during transit from the coalfields; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to plug this leakage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No large scale pilferage of coal during transit by rail has been reported by the Zonal Railways.

(b) The following steps are being taken to prevent theft and pilferage of coal on the Railways:

(i) Escorting of block loads of coal from coal fields to Steel Plants, Power Houses etc. by armed R.P.F. is undertaken as far as possible.

(ii) R.P.F. track patrolling parties on duty for prevention of overhead electric wire thefts have been instructed to keep a sharp eye on coal loads and prevent pilferage of coal from them.

(iii) Beat-cum-patrolling duties have been introduced in big yards.

(iv) Crime Intelligence Staff has been deputed to collect intelligence about the activities of criminals and to arrange surprise raids on criminals and receivers of stolen Railway property, which also includes coal moving on the railways.

(v) Joint raids on spurious coal depots near Railway Yards are organised by RPF/GRP/ Civil Police.

(vi) Recently a special drive was launched in the Bihar portion of the Eastern, South Eastern and North Eastern Railways wherein armed escorting of coal rakes by armed RPF/RPSF/CRP was undertaken.

**Visit of French President**

2062. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the French President visited India recently and held talks with the Minister of External Affairs; and

(b) if so, the nature of talks and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) President Giscard d'Estaing of France paid a state visit to India from 25th—29th January, 1980. The President held talks with the Prime Minister of India. The Minister of External Affairs participated in these talks.

(b) The talks covered bilateral and international issues. During the visit, the two countries concluded seven protocols and memoranda of understanding on industrial and commercial co-operation, coal mining, an aluminium complex in Orissa, agriculture and rural development, petrochemicals, fertilizers, drugs and chemicals, renewable energies, ocean science and technology.

A Joint Declaration on the international situation was signed by the President of France and the Prime Minister of India.

**Peak Hours in regard to Bombay Suburban Trains**

2063. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what constitutes "Peak-hours" with respect to Bombay Suburban Trains;

(b) on what basis and since when it was decided;

(c) whether in spite of the changed circumstances like population rise of industries in Thane and around the

scope and definition of "peak-hours" has remained unchanged; and

(d) what action Railway Administration propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Periods when there is heavy movement of commuters in Bombay Metropolis have been defined as 'peak-periods' which are:

Rly.	Morning	Evening
Central	8 to 11	17 to 20
Western	8.30 to 11.30	17 to 20.

The concept of 'peak periods' and 'non peak periods' traffic started right from the beginning of commuter services.

(c) Studies carried out by the Railways and the latest survey by the Rail Tariff Enquiry Committee have revealed that the concept of 'peak period' traffic remain unaltered with growth in population and industries in and around Bombay Metropolis.

(d) The number of trains per hour of 'peak periods' has already been increased.

#### Express Train to link Madras bound Passengers

2064. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation in February 1980 from the President of Ranchi Tamil Sangam, Ranchi (Bihar) in regard to an Express Train to link Madras bound passengers;

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

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

(b) and (c). The Question of linking Madras with Ranchi by introducing an Express train between Ranchi and Rourkela to be amalgamated with 89/90 Madras-Bokaro Express has been agreed to in principle. However, this can be done only after dieselisation of 89/90 Express, which is not feasible at present due to short availability of spare diesel locos.

यमुना विहार में केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना अविधालय का खोला जाना

2065. श्री चन्द्रपाल झैलानी: क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यमुना विहार में केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना के एक अविधालय के खोले जाने का विचार है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह कब तक स्थापित हो जाएगा; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो तत्सम्बन्धी कारण क्या हैं?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री निर्हार रंजन लास्कर): (क) से (ग). वित्तीय कठिनाइयों के कारण इस समय ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

#### Labourers engaged in parcel and goods handling at Dhanbad station

2066. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of labourers engaged in parcel and goods handling at Dhanbad Station;

(b) whether the labourers are getting the minimum wage on the basis of work done by them, if so, details of their earnings on average in last three months; and

(c) if not, justification of making low payments?