

cinder picking in railway steam loco sheds. It appointed a Committee consisting of representatives of labour, the Railways and the Central Industrial Relations Machinery to study the working conditions of contract labour in the said employment and submit its report. One group of members of the Committee was in favour of the abolition of contract labour system in the said employment, while the other group was in favour of the continuance of the system on the ground that the pattern of traction was under-going rapid changes and the gauge conversion was in progress, with the result the points of transshipment, the location of steam sheds and the coal and ash handling requirements would be shifting and finally the steam traction would be replaced by electric/diesel traction. However, the Central Advisory Contract Labour Board, with the representatives of the Ministry of Railways having reservations, recommended the abolition of contract labour system of coal handling and cinder picking in all Railways Loco-sheds on 13th December, 1977.

(c) The Railways have made a lot of progress towards replacing steam traction by electric and diesel traction. This on-going process will lead to steam locomotives being discarded in the not too distant future. So it is not desirable at this stage to departmentalise operations of coal handling, ash-pit cleaning and cinder picking in steam locosheds when the men are going to be rendered surplus as a result of discarding steam locomotives on the Indian Railways. Also these operations are not of perennial nature and do not require employment of whole time regular railway staff.

टाटा नगर से गोधरा स/मान भेजने में विलम्ब लगना

7062. श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

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(क) क्या सरकार को सचिव, गोधरा आयरन हाईवेयर पेन्टस एंड सेनिटरी मर्चेन्ट्स एसोसिएशन से दिनांक 16 जनवरी, 1981 का इस प्रकार का पत्र मिला है कि टाटा नगर से गोधरा माल भेजने में बहुत विलम्ब हो जाता है और उसके प्रति कोई सावधानी नहीं बरती जाती जिसके परिणामस्वरूप समान क्षतिग्रस्त हो जाता है तथा टूट जाता है और व्यापारियों को लाखों रुपयों का नुकसान होता है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो व्यापारियों की शिकायतों पर क्या उपचारी कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

रेल मंत्रालय तथा संसदीय कार्य विभाग में उपमंत्री (श्री भल्लिकार्जुन) :

(क) और (ख) जी हां। पारवहन में विलम्ब होने के कुछ मामले थे परन्तु हानि के मामले नगण्य थे। रेलों का हमेशा यह प्रयास रहता है कि पारवहन समय में सुधार किया जाये।

Registered Railway Trade Unions

7063. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of movements and agitations launched by the Registered Trade Unions of Railwaymen functioning in the Indian Railways from 1978 to February, 1981 and the reasons for these agitations; and

(b) the action taken by the Ministry of labour to resolve the disputes raised by these Registered Trade Unions of Railwaymen under the Industrial Disputes Act to maintain Industrial peace?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-

LIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Introduction of Express Goods Trains in the country

7064. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:
SHRI B. V. DESAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to introduce express goods train in the country;

(b) if so, how many such trains will be introduced in the country;

(c) which are the States where these will be introduced; and

(d) whether extra charges will be made on the goods transported in these trains?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Railways have segregated the wagons fitted with roller bearings and centre buffer couplers from the conventional type of stock to operate on 'Express' streams of traffic for carriage of essential commodities. It is a pattern of movement in which the trains will run faster.

(b) As many trains as possible.

(c) Railways do not introduce trains on State basis. Depending upon the materialisation of traffic for various places from different points trains are introduced.

(d) No.

Loss to Railways on account of Social Burden

7065. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:
SHRI B. V. DESAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether high level expert committee in its report on the losses suffered by the Railway on account of the Social burden has stated that there is no case to continue the uneconomic branch lines;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined all its recommendations; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN). (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The recommendations of the Committee on Social burden were remitted to the Rail Tariff Enquiry Committee whose report is under examination.

Extension of Maternity Care and Child Welfare Scheme to Panchayat Level

7066. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken the extension of maternity care and child welfare schemes to the Panchayat (Village) level during the Sixth Five Year Plan;