

sense that old keys in the stock of the Railways were used. It is very difficult to compute the exact money value of that, but it will be near about Rs. 1 lakh or so.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: The hon. Minister stated that charge-sheets have been served on three officers. May I know whether any one of them has been suspended?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: No.

Corruption at Howrah Station

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*638. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Muhammed Elias:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3267 on the 20th April, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the enquiry against some Railway employees on the charge of corruption in Howrah Goods Accounts Office has been completed; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take in those cases?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan**): (a) Fact Finding Enquiry was completed in respect of 33 cases. Of these the statutory enquiry under Discipline and Appeal Rules has been completed in respect of 23 cases.

(b) Disciplinary action has been taken against the staff found responsible after the departmental enquiry. The outstanding cases are being taken up for departmental enquiry and necessary action will be taken on completion of the same.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know what are the findings of this enquiry? May I also know whether this corruption was committed within the Goods Accounts Office only or it was linked with other offices and commercial departments?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: This enquiry related mainly to the waiver of wharfage that had accrued. An enquiry was conducted into this matter and some of those persons found guilty have been punished.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether corruption has been totally stopped in that office?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: It is very difficult to say whether corruption has stopped totally, but I am sure it has been minimised considerably.

Shri P. R. Patel: The hon. Minister stated that some disciplinary action has been taken against certain persons. May I know what were the charges against them? If the charges were of corruption, why were they not dismissed?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: Disciplinary action also includes removal and/or dismissal from service.

Shri Yadav: What were the charges? Were they of corruption or something else?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: They were charges of corruption inasmuch as the revenues of Railways, which would have come to us on account of wharfage, were waived by them in collusion with certain merchants. It is a case of corruption.

Improved Tools for Development Blocks

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*639. } **Shri E. C. Majhi:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the scheme for the supply of improved hand tools to village blacksmiths and carpenters in the development blocks; and

(b) if so, whether the scheme is being implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme has been forwarded to the State Governments for implementation.

Shri B. C. Majhi: May I know whether the improved tools are being supplied free of cost or on a subsidy basis?

Shri B. S. Murthy: 50 per cent of the cost is being subsidised.

Shri B. C. Majhi: May I know whether there is any scheme to train the villagers to increase the efficiency and standard of workmanship?

Shri B. S. Murthy: Yes, Sir

Shri Tyagi: I want to know, Sir, why 50 per cent of the cost is being subsidised by Government. When the tools are better than the old tools they will themselves buy the tools

Shri B. S. Murthy: I could not follow the question.

Shri Tyagi: I want to know why public money is being wasted. When the tools are better and cheaper, why is it that 50 per cent is paid by the Government?

The Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri S. K. Dey): Sir, I would like to answer that question. The poor villagers who are living on subsistence with antiquated tools are being supplied better tools at 50 per cent of the cost. If that is considered a waste, I am very sorry, I do not understand it.

Shri Tyagi: I want to know whether it is a Central subject or a State subject. Is the supply of tools a business of the State? Are they giving the money, or is it being spent from the Centre only to gain popularity?

Shri B. S. Murthy: These are not implements for agriculture; these are improved tools supplied to the village black-smiths and carpenters.

Shri Nagi Reddy: May I know the amount of money that has been sanctioned to the States to implement this scheme?

Shri B. S. Murthy: Each Block has a sub-grant under the item "Rural arts and crafts". Whenever money is required that money is drawn from this grant

श्री प्र० ना० सिंह : कितने सूबो में यह स्कीम चालू हो गई है ?

श्री ब० सु० जूति : बहुत से सूबो में चालू हो गई है ।

(Interruption.)

Mr. Speaker: In all the States, that is what he said.

Departmental Catering on Railways

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640. { Shri Harish Chandra
Mathur:
Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Jangde:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in departmental catering on Railways;

(b) what is the phased programme, if any, and when it is likely to be completed;

(c) what improvements in the standard of food have been effected;

(d) what is the element of loss, if any; and

(e) to what extent is the staff surplus to the needs of catering?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha giving the stations at which departmental catering is in force as also the trains on which departmentally worked Dining or Restaurant Cars operate [See Appendix II, annexure No 101]

(b) The initial programme for departmentalisation has been completed. Hereafter it is proposed to