

क्या तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में इस काम के लिये भी बड़ी बताराशि रखने पर विचार किया जा रहा है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जहां तक हमारी चिन्ता का सम्बन्ध है वह इससे प्रकट है कि हमने इस अनुदान में कोई कमी नहीं की है। इसके अतिरिक्त जो भी सुझाव उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की ओर से आते हैं हम उनको मंजूर कर रहे हैं। लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में माननीय सदस्य को यह भी ध्यान रखना चाहिये कि इन स्थानों में साल में केवल ६ महीने ही काम हो सकता है और ६ महीने बर्फ और पानी के कारण काम नहीं हो सकता।

Shri Kamal Singh: Apart from the shortage of rest house accommodation on the route to Badrinath, is the hon. Minister aware that there is really a shortage of rest house accommodation in Badrinath itself and whether any steps have been taken to relieve that shortage?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We are very well aware that there is very acute shortage of rest houses. We are also aware that a large number of educated people go there, not only for pilgrimage but also for sight-seeing. Tourists go there for seeing the Himalayas and so on. That is why we are anxious to expedite the expansion and improvement of rest house accommodation on these routes as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know about Badrinath itself.

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as the routes are concerned, the rest house accommodation is very insufficient and we are trying our best in collaboration with the U.P. Government to improve things. So far as Badrinath itself is concerned, the Badrinath town is administered by the Badrinath Temple Trust and the secretary looks after everything. The U.P. Government are very well aware of the conditions there and they will try to im-

prove it; essentially it lies within their jurisdiction.

Export of Locomotives, Wagons and Coaches

+
*553. { **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:
Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shri Warior:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 518 on the 17th August, 1959 and state:

(a) whether any avenue of export of locomotives, wagons and coaches has since been found to earn foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, where and to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Not so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know what specific steps have been taken to find avenues of export?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: We addressed a questionnaire to all our missions abroad. Also, a delegation of railway officers visited various countries in South-East Asia and they also tried to assess various avenues of export. But so far we have not been successful, although certain enquiries have been made by Thailand and Burma.

Shri Nagi Reddy: May I know whether any estimate has been made about the number of locomotives, wagons and coaches that will be available for export?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): It is not a question of estimates being made. We have surplus of metre-gauge wagons and locomotives. If we can find markets, we are in a position to manufacture more and supply them to those markets.

Shri Bimal Ghose: May I know whether the difficulties are in regard to price or quality or both?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: There is no question of difficulty about prices, quality or both. Enquiries have been made and we have replied to those enquiries. As regards quality, we know that our locomotives are second to none. Regarding price, it will create additional employment opportunity in the country. So, I think there should be no difficulty about the price factor.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is the hon. Minister aware that even in the country, certain pressing demands for fresh train services have been refused due to lack of locomotives and coaches?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Yes; it is a fact that we have shortage of coaches. But here we are talking about wagons and locomotives. We have a very acute shortage of coaches at present. Even if locomotives are available, if coaches are not available, new train services cannot be run.

Shri Hem Barua: On a previous occasion, it was said that possibilities of export are being explored with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. May I know what has happened to that?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The position is the same. We continue to explore all possible avenues.

Shri Damani: May I know whether any country has approached us for importing our wagons and locomotives?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I am afraid the hon. Member has not listened to my previous reply attentively. I said, Burma and Thailand had made enquiries.

Rail Concession for Members of State Legislatures

*554. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any and if so, which of the States have so far decided upon or have under consideration any proposal to bear expenses of railway fares for the journey of the Members of Legislatures undertaken to familiarise themselves with various nation-building schemes in different parts of the country;

(b) whether such States have urged upon the Central Government to grant some concessions for such journeys performed by the Legislators;

(c) if so, the nature of concessions sought; and

(d) the decision of Government in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). No request has been received from any State Govt. regarding rail concession for their Legislators to visit various national projects. It is also not known whether the State Govts. have under contemplation any such proposal. A request for rail concession to a party of Legislators of Bombay State was, however, received from one of the legislators on behalf of himself and some of his colleagues.

(c) Return journey tickets on payment of single journey fares.

(d) It was decided to allow the members of all State Legislatures to travel in I, II or III class on payment of 3-4th of the normal Tariff fare, when they travel in parties of not less than 20, for visiting places of national importance, subject to the condition that the concession is availed of by a State Legislator only once in a year.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the Government are aware that the West Bengal Legislative Assembly has passed a resolution to this effect and whether if any