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(ख) राजस्थान मिनरल्स कं॰ एक बडी व्यापारी कम्पनी है जिसे इस वर्ष के दौरान सबसे अधिक माल डिब्बे आवटित किये गये थे। उसे 927 माल डिब्बे आवंटित किये गये थे।

Enquiry against Vigilance Inspector of Railway Board

3090. SHRI AZIZ IMAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 946 on the 21st March, 1972 regarding report against Vigilance Inspector, Railway Board and state : (a) whether on the report of a Member of Parliament during 1971-72 enquiries were conducted against a Vigilance Inspector, Railway Board and whether as a result thereof the misconduct of the Vigilance Inspector was proved; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the rhatter ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b) : A complaint against an Investigating Inspector of the Vigilance Directorate of the Railway Board was received from a Member of Parliament during 1971-72 *i e.*, April, 1971 to March, 1972. This is under investigation.

Re-ooBking of Consignment under Invoice No. 20 and 21 Ex-Khurai to Allahabad

3091. SHRI AZIZ IMAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the consignment blocked ex-Khurai to Allahabad under Invoice No. 20 and 21 of 21st September, 1971 was further rebooked to Varanasi by an Official of Divisional Superintendent's Office, Allahabad;

(b) whether the rebooking of the above consignment was done by a person who was not competent to re-book the con ig ment; and

(c) the official held responsible for the incident and action taken by Government in the matter?

THF MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) (a) The re-booking was dene by Goods Inspector, Allahabad Station on receipt of permission from the Office of Divisional Superintendent, Allahabad.

(b) The file on the subject is not traceable in the Office of the Divisional Superintendent, Nerthern Railway, Allahabad. Hence it has not been possible to ascertain whether the re-booking was permitted by the competent authority. (c) On account of non-availability of file on which re-booking order was issued, responsibility for unauthorised re-booking, if any, could not be fixed. Action is being initiated to fix responsibility for loss of file.

Utilization of Return Courier as Cook at Residence of Divisional Commercial Superintendent, Allahabad Division (Northern Railway)

3092. SHRI AZIZ IMAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether one Return Courier attached with Commercial Branch, Divisional Superintendent's Office, Allahabad was utilised as a Cook at Divisional Commercial Superintendent's residence in the year 1971-72;

(b) whether the Courier protested against this posting ;

(c) whether the Courier fell sick and his pay for the period of sickness was disallowed by the Commercial Officer; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in the matter.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Withholding of Poyment to Labourers by Parcel Handling Contrator, Tundla

3093. SHRI AZIZ IMAM : Will the Minister of RILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Parcel Handling Contractor, Tundla, who held the contract from April, 1968 to March, 1971 had withheld payment of dues to labourers for March, 1971 to the extent of Rs. 2,900/-;

(b) whether this fact had been reported to the Divisional Authority, Allahabad by the labourers; (c) if so, whether the said amount has been recovered from the contractor's dues and paid to the labourers as per agreement; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA): (a). There is a dispute as to the actual amount due to be paid. According to the contractor, the amount due is only Rs. 1,316/-.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) : On receipt of a representation the contractor was asked to arrange payment to the labour but he reported that a legal notice through an Advocate of Agra, on behalf of the labourers, had been received by him claiming payment of Rs. 2.980/- to the laborours. The contractor advised the Advocate that the correct amount due was Rs. 1316/- which was prepared to pay in full and final settlement of the claim labourers. The matter is still under negotiation between the contractor and the labourers. Meanwhile, the contractor's security deposit of Rs. 8,00/- has been withheld by the Railway and will be released only after the payment to the labourers is finally settled.

Decline in Export of Tea to Hard Currency Areas

3094. SHRI N K SANGHI: Will the Minister of FORFIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of tea from India to countries, other than those with whom we have bilateral agreements, is not growing while the production is increasing;

(b) whether its export is declining to hard currency areas; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). There has been a decline in export of tea to countries not covered by bilateral trade agreements.