

**Corruption cases pending against certain Officers of Northern Railway**

4308. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Stores worth Rs. 5 to 10 lakhs are purchased by the Northern Railway every day;

(b) whether Government are also aware that concerned Stores Officers indulge in corrupt practices in getting these stores purchased;

(c) whether there are cases of corruption pending against any Stores Officers of the Northern Railway, particularly C.O.C., SS(IA), Dy. COS (G), SSO(II), ACOS (I), ACOS (Cement), ACOS (WC); and

(d) if so, what is the progress in these cases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The Northern Railway has placed orders for the purchase of Stores worth on an average about Rs. 2.60 lakhs per day during 1972-73 and the total value of the orders placed during the financial year 1972-73 is Rs. 7,13,96,000. The value of purchase of stores works out to approximately Rs. 2.95 lakhs per working day taking an average of the last three financial years, viz. 1970-71, 1971-72, 1972-73 during which period the total purchases had amounted only to approximately Rs. 25.22 crores. The purchases by Northern Railway during the period 1-4-73 to 30-9-73 during the current financial year (1973-74), have amounted to Rs. 4.29 crores. The above figures exclude the orders placed against Rate/Running contracts entered into by the D.G.S.&D. and the purchases made through Joint Plant Committee, D.G.S.&D., Railway Board and other Central Purchasing bodies.

(b) It is not a fact that the concerned Stores Officers indulge in corrupt practices while making purchases of the requisite stores. How-

ever, where any complaint of corrupt practices of any Railway Officers come to the notice of the Vigilance Organisation functioning on all the zonal Railways and in the Railway Ministry or any such corrupt practices come to the notice of the Vigilance Units during preventive/surprise checks which are also frequently carried out, these are fully investigated and appropriate action is taken against the officers found guilty. Any case attracting vigilance angle which is investigated against Gazetted Officers, is invariably referred to the Central Vigilance Commission for advice.

(c) and (d). There are a few complaints not relating to purchase of stores against certain officers of the Stores Department working on the Northern Railway. The cases are at various stages of investigation/departmental enquiries. There is, however, no case of corruption pending against the officers mentioned by the Honourable Member.

**Demonstration by All India Station Masters' Association**

4309. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Station Masters' Association demonstrated before Parliament on the 29th April, 1972 and submitted a 10-point memorandum to the Railway Minister;

(b) whether Station Masters postponed their agitation on the assurances given by the Railway Minister; and

(c) the gist of the demands accepted, if any?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). The 10 demands of the SMs and ASMs received by Government and Government's reaction thereto are contained in the reply to Unstarred Question No. 1116 in Lok Sabha on 27-2-1973.