

Mechanical system of Accounting on Railways

1313. Shri R. S. Vidyarthi:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Sharda Nand:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether mechanical system of accounting was experimented in 1926;

(b) whether this mechanisation system was abandoned in 1930 as the counting system was complicated, faulty and very expensive;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Director of this mechanisation scheme admitted in his initial report that the Western Countries, viz., Germany, U.K. and Canada did not adopt outward basis of accounting on the Railways; and

(d) if so, the reasons for introducing the mechanical system at present?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes.

(b) The machines were given up in the year 1938 but in the absence of old papers the precise reasons therefor cannot be ascertained.

(c) Yes, in regard to U.K. and Canada Railways. The Director had no occasion to study the practices on the German Railways.

(d) The structure of accounting on the U.K. and Canada Railways is quite different from that on the Indian Railways. All the relevant factors were carefully considered and the system for accountal on forwarded basis has been introduced in order to enable a prompt and complete check on the accountal of all the invoices issued, especially the accountal of "to pay" traffic, and also because the accountal of paid traffic on the basis of reports from destination stations did not provide a direct and immediate link between the money collected by originating stations and its accountal.

Rent on Accounting Machines

1314. Shri R. S. Vidyarthi:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Sharda Nand:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid to the I.B.M. Company, U.S.A. on account of rental from August, 1964 to date for accounting machines;

(b) the amount paid to foreign mechanics and other officers for maintenance and repairs from 1964 to March, 1967;

(c) the amount spent for the purchase of special paper cards, carbon paper rolls and other important stationery needed for the accounting machines; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange consumed with reference to parts (a), (b) and (c) above?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Rs. 74.80 lacs.

(b) Nil.

(c) Rs. 29.81 lacs.

(d) Nil as payment is made in rupees.

Shortfall in Railway Earnings resulting for Mechanisation of Accounting System on Railways

1315. Shri R. S. Vidyarthi:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Sharda Nand:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that after the introduction of mechanisation in the accounting procedure in the Traffic Accounts Offices from the year 1964, there is continued decrease in the Railway earnings?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): No.