

(b) if so, whether Government propose to reduce the duty hours of Cabinmen to 8 hours a day?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes, at certain stations only.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Train Facilities at Madras-Arkonam Sections

2056. Shri D. N. Patodia:
Shri Mohamed Imam:
Shri S. K. Tapuriah:
Shri Gadilingana Gowd:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations from various quarters have been received for adequate train facilities at Madras-Arkonam Section of the Southern Railway; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

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

(b) An additional pair of trains was introduced on Madras-Trivellore Section from 2-10-66. Running of more trains on Madras-Trivellore-Arkonam section is not at present, operationally feasible for want of requisite terminal facilities at Madras Central.

Demands of the Employees of N.C.D.C.

2057. Shri Maharaj Singh Bharati:
Shri Sheopujan Shastri:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the National Coal Development Corporation, Ranchi have sent any complaints to Government in regard to excesses and corruption involving crores of rupees; and

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any investigation or enquiry in regard thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The National Coal Organisation Employees Association, Ranchi, presented a memorandum on 22-2-1966 which contained, *inter-alia* alleged cases of corruption etc. These were examined and found to be vague or baseless except in one case where suitable action was taken. Another letter dated 19-12-1966 was sent by the N.C.O.E.A. to the Managing Director, National Coal Development Corporation with a copy to the Ministry referring to cases of corruption etc. This is being looked into by the National Coal Development Corporation.

Detention of G.T. Express

2058. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the New Delhi-Madras Grand Trunk Express was detained for 8 hours between Ballabgarh and Asaoti Stations on the New Delhi-Agra Section of the Central Railway on the 9th May, 1967 after a second bogie had caught fire;

(b) if so, the causes of the accident; and

(c) the total amount of loss to the railway property?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) On 8-5-1967, 16 Up Grand Trunk Express suffered a detention of nearly 9 hours between Ballabgarh and Asaoti stations on account of fire in a 2nd Class coach marshalled third from the train engine.

(b) The cause of the accident is under investigation.

(c) The cost of damage to railway property was estimated at approximately Rs. 50,000.