

(b) if so, whether Government propose to suggest to the National Coal Development Corporation and their coal purchaser public sector undertakings to form a high level co-ordination committee which may do away with the necessity of middlemen as far as possible ; and

(c) the action which Government propose to take to realise the arrears of payment due from the middlemen to the Corporation and to realise interest on those arrears and also to realise penalty in respect thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :** (a) It is a fact that some public sector Undertakings chiefly some State Electricity Boards, purchase coal from the N. C. D. C. through middlemen and also make payments to the middlemen and not to the N. C. D. C. directly. These middlemen sometimes default in making timely payments to the N. C. D. C. as per agreed stipulation ;

(b) There is no proposal, at present to form a high level Co-ordination Committee to do away with the necessity of middlemen.

(c) The N. C. D. C. is making every effort to realise its arrears payments from the middlemen. The question of imposition of penalties and levy of interest on delayed payments is currently receiving the attention of Corporation.

**मीनेरा स्टेसन के निकट दुर्घटना के कारण रेलवे सम्पत्ति को हानि**

9115. श्री यशवन्त सिंह कुजवाहू : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य रेलवे की (नैरोगेज) ग्वालियर भिड रेलवे लाइन पर, मीनेरा रेलवे स्टेशन के निकट मई, 1967 में हुई रेलवे दुर्घटना में नष्ट रेलवे सम्पत्ति का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) कितने डिब्बे तथा बैगन क्षतिग्रस्त हुए थे तथा उनके स्थान पर नये डिब्बे तथा बैगन चलाने के बारे में क्या प्रबन्ध किया गया है ;

(ग) क्या उक्त रेलगाड़ी का इंजन भी क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया था ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या इंजन की मरम्मत कर दी गई है ; और

(ङ) उक्त रेलगाड़ी के ड्राइवर के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री ए. सी. मु. पुनाषा) :  
(क) रेल सम्पत्ति की क्षति की अनुमानित लागत नीचे दी गई है : —

चक्र स्टाक	लगभग 22,500 रु०
रेल पथ	लगभग 2,000 रु०
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जोड़	24,500 रु०
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(ख) सात सवारी डिब्बे और तीन माल डिब्बे क्षतिग्रस्त हुए थे जिनमें से दो सवारी डिब्बों और एक माल डिब्बे को मरम्मत हो गई है और तीन सवारी डिब्बों और एक माल डिब्बे को मरम्मत की जा रही है। दो सवारी डिब्बे नाकारा ठहरा दिये गये और एक माल डिब्बे को भी नाकारा ठहराया जा रहा है। नाकारा ठहराये गये दोनों सवारी डिब्बे बदले हुए सवारी डिब्बे थे और इसलिए उनके बदलाव का सवाल नहीं उठता। माल डिब्बे के नाकारा घोषित हो जाने पर उसके बदलाव की व्यवस्था यदि आवश्यक समझी गई, तो भावी चल स्टाक कार्यक्रम में की जायेगी।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) सवाल नहीं उठता।

(ङ) ड्राइवर के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई की जा रही है।

Rent paid by M.M.T.C for its Calcutta Offices

9116. SHRI D. N. DEB :  
SHRI P. N. SOLANKI :  
SHRI S. P. RAMAMOORTY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of rent paid by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, Calcutta for its office premises ;

(b) the amount of rent paid for the

office premises of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation two years back ;

(c) whether it is a fact that monthly rent of the office premises has been increased from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 30,000;

(d) whether the rates of rent in Calcutta have considerably gone down during the last two or three years ; and

(e) if so, the justification for 500 to 600 per cent increased in the rent paid by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation for its office premises ?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) :** (a) Total rent paid by the M. M. T. C. during 1967-68 for its Calcutta office premises is Rs. 20,20,27.78 P.

(b) Rent paid during 1965-66 is Rs. 76,302.60 P.

(c) The monthly rent has increased from Rs. 6,358.55 P. to Rs. 24,319.29 P.

(d) No, Sir. There has been no appreciable decrease in rent in Calcutta area during the last two or three years especially for office accommodation in predominantly commercial areas.

(e) The staff of the M. M. T. C's. Regional Office was housed in two separate buildings as a result of which lot of inconvenience was caused in the smooth working of the office. Besides, the landlord of one of the buildings, in which the Regional Office of the Corporation was housed, had filed a suit for the vacation of the building and the building had therefore to be vacated sooner or later. Since this building was with the official Receiver and the rent of the building was low, the landlord had refused to spend any more on essential repairs etc., as a result of which the Corporation had to put up with a number of inconveniences like unsatisfactory sanitary arrangements, leakage in the ceilings ; worn out electric wiring etc.

When a suitable building which could conveniently house the entire staff became available, it was decided to shift the office to that building.

#### Export of Manganese Ore from Orissa

9117. **SHRI D. N. DEB :**  
**SHRI P. N. SOLANKI :**

**SHRI S. P. RAMAMOORTY :**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the export of manganese ore from Orissa during the years 1966-67 and 1967-68 ; and

(b) the targets regarding quantity and the amount of foreign exchange earnings fixed in this respect during the above period ?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) :** (a) No separate export figures are available as the ore from Orissa is blended with ore from other sources at the ports of Vishakhapatnam and Calcutta prior to its shipment.

(b) The targets for the export of manganese ore are fixed on an All-India basis.

Against an annual export target of 1.2 m. tonnes actual exports during 1966-67 and 1967-68 were as follows :

	Qty. in '000' M/T	Value in Rs. lakhs
1966-67	1185.13	1336.58
1967-68	1042.44	1128.56

#### Sale of Scrap Iron by Rourkela Steel Plant

9118. **SHRI D. N. DEB :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had given contract for the sale of huge quantity of scrap iron by the Rourkela Steel Plant in 1963 ;

(b) whether the stock was not lifted in time by the tenderer and hence the tender was deemed as cancelled ;

(c) whether any earnest money was received from the successful tenderer ; and

(d) whether the matter is at present before the arbitrator or whether the same has been sold after calling fresh tenders ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :** (a) to