

(b) if not, the reasons for the abnormal delay;

(c) when the investigation report has since been submitted; and

(d) whether Government propose to lay a copy of the report on the Table of the House?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The technical and financial position of the mills is such that Government have to consider carefully the implications of any decision about the future of this mill. Consultation with the State Government was also necessary and is in progress.

(c) the investigation Committee's Report was submitted on 3rd March, 1966.

(d) No, Sir.

#### TYRE FACTORY IN U.P.

3898. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for the establishment of a tyre factory in Allahabad U.P. has been finalised;

(b) if so, the rated capacity of the factory; and

(c) when the factory is likely to start production?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) to (c). There is a proposal by Universal Tyres for manufacture of tyres at Allahabad. The matter is under consideration.

#### DEMANDS OF RAILWAY RUNNING STAFF

3899. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether after the strike by the Firemen, Government are seriously con-

sidering to meet the demands of the Running Staff like Drivers, Firemen, Guards etc.;

(b) if so, whether a Committee has been formed; and

(c) if not, whether a bipartite negotiated settlement is contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (c). Even before the agitation by the Firemen on certain Railways, Government had set up a committee to review the Running Allowances of the Running Staff. The report of the Committee has just been submitted and is under examination.

Certain other grievances of the Running Staff such as re-adjustment of authorised scales of pay, counting of running allowance for determining Dearness Allowance rate, Hours of work etc. which have been represented by Organised Labour are receiving attention. Orders have already been issued limiting duty at a stretch to 14 hours. provided the running staff concerned give notice at the end of 12 hours of duty.

#### ROBBERY IN 367-UP LALGOLA PASSENGER TRAIN

3900. SHRI VISHWA NATH PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that passengers travelling by 367-Up Lalgola Passenger were robbed of their belongings on the 16th May, 1968 by a gang of 40 robbers armed with daggers and other weapons at a place between Muragachha and Bethuadahari some distance from Sealdah on the Ranaghat-Lalgola section of the Eastern Railway; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes.

(b) Government Railway Police, Berhampore has registered a case of u/ss 395/397 I.P.C. So far 73 persons have been arrested and some of the articles robbed have been recovered. As a

preventive measure, night police escorts have been introduced on all important trains on the affected section. A temporary Police Camp has also been opened at Dhubulia Railway Station.

#### INDO-CYLON AGREEMENT ON TEA

3901. SHRI LOBO PRABHU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the terms of the Indo-Ceylon tea agreement;

(b) whether the Plantation Industry and the Tea Trade were also consulted before the agreement was reached; and

(c) the reasons for not making provisions for improving the common bargaining position of the two countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Having recognised the need for active collaboration in the field of promoting sales of blended and packaged teas, India and Ceylon have agreed :—

- (i) to evolve a common approach to international tea problems with a view to arresting the declining trend in prices;
- (ii) to intensify measures for promotion of tea, as far as possible through the existing Joint Tea Councils, and, for determining the scope and facilitating the improvement of tea promotion programmes, to organise joint market surveys in selected areas;
- (iii) to set up Working Group consisting of representatives of India and Ceylon to draft the constitution and define precisely the objectives, functions, financial and administrative structure and scope of operations of a Joint Consortium for the marketing of blended and packaged teas in selected markets;

(iv) to organise joint research in the following spheres :

(a) packaging and preservation of tea;

(b) new forms of tea;

(c) extraction of chemicals and by-products from tea.

(b) The representatives of the tea industry and trade were included in the Indian Delegation which negotiated the said Agreement with the Ceylonese Delegation.

(c) The measures already agreed upon, it will be seen, provide for a common approach and co-operation between the two countries to secure better prices for teas exported by the two countries.

मध्य रेलवे पर जनता गाड़ी का  
चलाया जाना

3903. श्री गं० च० दीक्षित : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य रेलवे के यात्रियों की असुविधा को दूर करने की दृष्टि से एक अन्य जनता गाड़ी चलाई गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस गाड़ी को सप्ताह में दो बार की बजाय प्रतिदिन चलाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री चं० मु० पुनाचा) :

(क) जी हां। 3-8-1968 से 41 डाउन/42 अप बम्बई वी० टी० हवड़ा जनता एक्सप्रेस गाड़ियां बम्बई वी० टी० और हवड़ा के बीच सप्ताह में दो बार चल रही हैं। इसके अलावा बम्बई वी० टी० और इलाहाबाद के बीच ये गाड़ियां सप्ताह में दो बार चलती हैं।