

(b) According to the finding of the enquiry committee the accident was due to shifting of steel sheets in a wagon during the run of the train while negotiating sharp curves and variable gradients as the sheets had not been properly secured and loaded.

(c) The cost of damage to railway property was estimated at approximately Rs. 19,000/-.

Collision between Electric Train and Electric Engine near Egmore Station

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

(a) whether it is a fact that some passengers died and several were seriously injured in a collision between an incoming electric train and an electric engine near Egmore railway station on the 2nd May, 1968;

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

(c) the total number of passengers killed and injured; and

(d) the total amount of loss to the railway property due to the accident?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) and (c). In the accident which took place at Madras Egmore on 1-5-68, no one was killed. However, 93 persons were injured, of whom 11 sustained grievous injuries.

(b) This accident was inquired into by the Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety. According to his provisional finding the accident was due to the failure of railway staff.

(d) The cost of damage to railway property was estimated at approximately Rs. 12,200.

Lifting of Foodgrains from Punjab and Haryana States

340. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:
SHRI HEM RAJ:
SHRI M. L. SONDHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

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(a) whether it is a fact that railway wagons were not available for lifting the foodgrains from Punjab and Haryana States; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a), No.

(b) Does not arise.

Small Car Project

341. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the statement made recently in Bombay by the Deputy Prime Minister that at this juncture the country could not afford to have another small-car project; and

(b) if so, whether the idea of pursuing the Planning Commission to agree to the setting up of the car project has been given up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED):

(a) Yes, to a newspaper report on the subject. Attention is also invited to the reply by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance to Starred Question No. 28 in the Lok Sabha on 22-7-68.

(b) The question of including the Small Car Project in the Fourth Five Year Plan is being pursued with the Planning Commission.

Khadi Industry in Orissa

342. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any negotiations were held between his Ministry, Khadi Commission and the Orissa Government's representatives for solving the deadlock created in the Khadi Industry in Orissa; and