

Lorry-train Accident near Ponneri**1410. Shrimati Savitri Nigam:****Shri Hukam Chand****Kachhavaiya:****Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:****Shri Sonavane:****Shri Raghunath Singh:****Shri Tula Ram:****Shri P. E. Chakraverti:****Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two persons were killed in a lorry-train accident near Ponneri in Madras on the 28th May, 1966;

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

(c) the action taken in regard thereto?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath):

(a) Yes.

(b) The accident was due to the negligence of the lorry driver.

(c) Does not arise.

Cable Thefts in Calcutta

1411. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sudden increase in the underground cable thefts in recent months in Calcutta, delaying various trains and detaining many passengers on the 29th May, 1966; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Yes, but there was no detention of trains on 29th May, 1966.

(b) Prevention and detection of thefts, whether of copper wire belonging to the Posts and Telegraphs department or signalling cables belonging to the Railways, are the responsi-

bility of the State Police. Cooperation meetings at all levels are held frequently amongst the P. & T., the Railways and the State Police. The Railway Protection Force assist the State Police in patrolling, with intelligence and in conducting raids, where required.

South Central Railway Zone**1412. Shri Yashpal Singh:****Shri Kolla Venkaiah:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the arrangements for the establishment of the South Central Railway Zone have been completed; and

(b) if so, when it will be inaugurated?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Not yet.

(b) The zone is expected to be inaugurated on 2nd October, 1966, if no unforeseen difficulties crop up.

Trade with Cuba and North Vietnam**1413. Shri Yashpal Singh:****Shri Kolla Venkaiah:****Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:****Shri Vasudevan Nair:****Shri Indrajit Gupta:****Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:****Shri M. L. Dwivedi:****Shri S. C. Samanta:****Shri Subodh Hansda:****Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:**

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the proposed "Food for Freedom Bill" which will replace the PL-480 of U.S.A. whereunder countries receiving grain shipments will have to abandon the export of goods to Cuba and North Vietnam;

(b) if so, how far it will affect the country's trade; and