

Station, when the passengers got down and left the platform, a constable of the Government Railway Police noticed a trunk and a holdall lying on the platform in front of a Second Class coach. The constable took them to the platform Inspector's Office as unclaimed property. As the foul smell emitted due to the movement of luggage, the Officer Commanding of the Government Railway Police, Howrah, was called and on opening the luggage a dismembered dead body in pieces was detected. Four pieces were found in the trunk and one piece within the holdall. The identity of the deceased person has not yet been established. However, all clues are being pursued by the police to establish the identity. No arrests have so far been made.

(c) Under the Constitution, maintenance of law and order within the railway premises and the safety and security of life and property of passengers is the responsibility of State Governments and the State Government Railway Police. The Government Railway Police take preventive steps to deal with these crimes and escort important long distance trains. They have further alerted their staff to keep a look out on the unclaimed luggage.

Railway Bridge on Basin

3991. SHRI R. K. AMIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a bridge on Basin between Palghar and Bombay shows weaknesses due to jerks of trains;

(b) whether the Railway authorities have been warned of its possible break-down; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and steps proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (c). Presumably, the Honourable Member is referring to the bridge over the Basin creek between Palghar and Bombay. If so, while the bridge does not show any weakness due to jerks of trains, some fender piles and bearings require renewals, which is being attended to.

Demand for Wagons in Gujarat State

3992. SHRI R. K. AMIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been persistent demand for wagons by salt manufacturers from Gujarat State :

(b) whether the salt-industry has suffered a good deal due to difficulty of transportation ; and

(c) if so, action Government propose to take to mitigate this difficulty ?

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

(b) and (c). Not known as there had been no appreciable difficulty in transportation. Salt for human consumption, programmed by the Salt Commissioner and approved by the Railway Board, is moved in priority class 'C' upto the quotas indicated in the Zonal Scheme by the Salt Commissioner. Salt not so programmed, is cleared in priority class 'E' along with other general goods traffic according to date of registration. Salt required as raw material for various industries is, however, moved in priority class 'D'. Efforts are made to ensure the availability of maximum number of wagons for movement of both programmed and non-programmed salt. During the period from 1st May to 20th November, 1968, 6028 B. G. and 14007 M. G. wagons of programmed salt and 3281 B. G. and 15887 M. G. wagons of non-programmed salt were loaded from the salt producing centres in Gujarat State situated on the Western Railway, as compared to 5736 B. G. and 11928 M. G. wagons of programmed and 2853 B. G. and 14520 M. G. wagons of non-programmed salt loaded during the corresponding period of last year. Movement of salt to Assam and North Bengal had to be temporarily suspended due to breaches on the North-East Frontier Railway in October and November, 1968.

Boycotting of Indian Sarees in Ceylon

3993. SHRI R. K. AMIN :
SHRI HUKAM CHAND
KACHWAI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :