

(c) The loss which the Company suffered in the year 1967-68 was attributed by its Directors in their Report for that year to fall in offtake on account of heavy shrinkage of orders from public sector, to general recessionary trends, to high discounts for selling its products and to rise in the cost of production.

The estimates for the year 1969-70 are not available with the Government.

**Looting of 9 UP Doon Express at Burdwan (Eastern Railway)**

1233. SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN :  
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :  
SHRI S. M. KRISHNA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that all the passengers in 9 Up Doon Express were relieved of their belongings when the train was at Burdwan on the 18th October, 1969;

(b) if so, the details of the incidents; and

(c) the steps taken for the safety of the Rail passengers ?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) :** (a) Only 15 passengers including one passenger travelling with his family in a 1st Class compartment were relieved of their belongings and not all the passengers.

(b) When train No. 9 Up Doon Express left Bandel, 18-20 young men travelling in a 2nd class compartment suddenly attacked the other passengers inside the compartment and robbed them of Rs. 1686 in cash, 13 wrist watches and golden ornaments at point of daggers and revolvers. The miscreants escaped between Khanyan and Pundooah stations by pulling the alarm chain. The Government Railway Police, Bandel have registered case No 11 dated 19-10-69 under section 395/397 I. P. C. in this connection and have arrested 9 persons so far.

(c) Besides tightening up the normal security arrangements, the following measures have also been taken :

(i) Plain-clothes squads consisting of District Police, Government Railway Police and Railway Protection Force, have also been organised to spot out criminals responsible for such type of crime.

(ii) The State Police have augmented the arrangement for escorting of night passenger trains.

**West Coast Railway**

1234. SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN :  
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :  
SHRI NATH PAI :  
SHRI SURENDRANATH  
DWIVEDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Maharashtra have forwarded a plan to provide a West Coast Railway during the Fourth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered this plan; and

(c) whether Government propose to include this Railway line in the Fourth Five Year Plan ?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) :** (a) to (c). The Maharashtra Government have represented for the construction of a coastal railway line through the Konkan region from Apta to Goa. Due to paucity of funds it is not possible to consider the construction of such a rail link at present.

**Display of notices of sleeping and sitting capacity in a Compartment**

1235. SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :  
SHRI K. HALDER :  
SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL :  
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :  
SHRI GANESH GHOSH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether notices, describing the sleeping and sitting capacity of a compartment,

were previously used to be displayed inside the compartment;

(b) whether those notices have now been erased;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether this amounts to violation of the provisions of the Indian Railway Act ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) and (d) . Do not arise.

**Provision of cleaned Water in Railway Compartments**

1236. SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :  
SHRI BADRUDDUJA :  
SHRI K. HALDER :  
SHRI B. K. MODAK :  
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the purpose of wash basin water that is provided in the Railway compartments;

(b) whether it is fit for drinking ;

(c) how often the water is cleaned and disinfected for internal use; and

(d) whether Government have any scheme to provide cleaned water for drinking and internal uses in the Railway compartments ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS ( SHRI GOVINDA MENON ) : (a) Wash basin in Railway compartments is provided for washing purposes.

(b) No.

(c) Carriage tanks are flushed and cleaned once a month. Wash basins are cleaned at the end of each trip.

(d) Yes, on selected long distance trains.

**Auto-Engine Cycle Rickshaws**

1237. SHRIMATI ILA PALCHOU-DHURY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s, Hind Cycles Ltd., Bombay were working on developing an auto-engine for powering cycle rickshaws now being pedalled by professional rickshaw-drivers;

(b) if so, the progress made in this connection;

(c) the approximate cost of a complete auto-engine-powered cycle rickshaw; and

(d) the time by which such a rickshaw is likely to be available in the market ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS ( SHRI F. A. AHMED ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The firm are ready to assemble these engines. However, they have not been able to commence production as some of the imported components are yet to be received from their collaborators in Japan.

(c) Information about the price of the cycle rickshaw fitted with this engine is not available. The c.i.f. cost of a similar engine, if imported from Japan, is reported to be Rs. 525/-- approximately.

(d) The production of engines is expected to start shortly after the imported items are received by the firm. It is expected that cycle rickshaws fitted with these engines would also be available immediately thereafter.

**Labour trouble in Bokaro Steel Plant**

1238. SHRIMATI ILA PALCHOU-DHURI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported trouble in the Bokaro Steel Town as a result of refusal