

points, where loading/unloading of affected commodities is closely supervised;

- (viii) collection of crime intelligence and conducting surprise raids by the staff of the Central Crime Bureau of Railways as well as of the Railway Board with a view to tracking down criminals and receivers of stolen railway property under the Railway Property (Unlawful possession) Act, 1966 ;
- (ix) maintenance of close coordination between Railway Protection Force, G. R. P. and State Police Officers to deal with criminals and receivers of stolen properties.

**Shortage of Wagons for Dolomite Mine Industry of Chhota-Udepur (Gujarat State)**

1277. SHRI D. R. PARMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the scarcity of Railway wagons has created crisis in the dolomite industry of Chhota Udepur in Gujarat State ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) what is the average monthly requirement of Railway wagons for despatch of mineral products from Chhota-Udepur ; and

(d) how many wagons were supplied monthly during April, May and June, 1970 ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) About 750 Narrow Gauge wagons per month.

(d) On an average, 883 Narrow Gauge wagons were loaded per month during April, May and June, 1970.

**Award of Scholarship from Staff benefit in Khurda Division (S. E. Rly.)**

1278. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-

GRAHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of scholarships awarded in the Khurda Division of the South Eastern Railway from the Staff Benefit Fund during the years 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : Number of scholarships awarded in the Khurda Division of the S. E. Railway from the Staff Benefit Fund are as under :

	<i>Fresh</i>	<i>Renewals</i>
1967-68	10	24
1968-69	11	24
1969-70	11	26

**Embezzlement of Silver Bars by Parcel Staff at Delhi Main Station**

1279. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7820 on the 28th April, 1970 regarding embezzlement of silver bars by the parcel staff at Delhi Main Station and state :

(a) whether the departmental enquiries have been completed ; and

(b) if so ; whether the staff at fault have been transferred out of Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : (a) A departmental inquiry to ascertain the facts has been initiated and has not yet been completed.

(b) No.

**Alleged corruption in personnel branch of office of Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer, Northern Railway, New Delhi**

1280. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great deal of corruption in the Personnel Branch of the office, of the Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer, Northern Railway, New Delhi and the officers attached with this

Branch are taking illegal gratification from the staff in cases of transfers ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Senior Subordinates are transferred from one Division to another after a period of five years at one Division *vide* General Manager, Northern Railway, Circular No. 940-E/O/III (Eiv), dated the 3rd February, 1968 (Sr. No. 4208) ;

(c) if so, the number of Superintendents who are working for more than five years in the Divisional Accounts Office, Northern Railway, New Delhi ; and

(d) the reasons for not transferring them so far ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) :** (a) No.

(b) For various reasons a decision had been taken that the instructions regarding transfer of staff from one station to another after a period of 5 years should not be rigidly applied to staff of the Accounts Department.

(c) One.

(d) The employee has been retained in the administrative interest.

**Co-operation between Travelling Public and Railwaymen**

1281. SHRI HEM BARUA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any measures to effect co-operation between the travelling public and the Railway employees in the interest of smooth running of the Railway Administration ; and

(b) if so, what are these measures and the extent to which these measures yielded any results in gearing up the Railway Administration ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) :** (a) Yes.

(b) Various Users' Consultative Committees like the National Railway Users' Consultative Council, Zonal/Divisional Consultative Com-

mittees etc. are functioning on Railways with a view to maintaining a close contact between the travelling public and the Railway Administrations. Meetings are held with these organisations regularly. Besides, volunteers of social service organisations are associated in various activities like checking ticketless travel and alarm chain pulling, supply of drinking water at stations to passengers etc. In addition, the staff are constantly exhorted on the need for extending utmost courtesy and assistance to the travelling public. These measures have helped in ensuring co-operation between the public and Railway staff and in providing a satisfying service to the rail users to a large extent.

A Standing Voluntary Help Committee has been formed recently for improving the working of Railways generally by securing maximum co-operation of the public and the railway workers at all levels.

**Assets Register in Durgapur Steel Plant**

1282. SHRI S. KUNDU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the authorities of the Durgapur Steel Plant have no assets register ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a number of automatic machineries are missing ;

(c) whether Government made any efforts to take stock of the assets ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) :** (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Hindustan Steel Limited, is autonomous Corporation whose accounts are regularly audited by Company's auditors and test audited by Audit Board under the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. Hindustan Steel has reported that it is maintaining a detailed assets register of all the assets in the Plant as well as in the township.