

**Agreement between management and workers of Calcutta Tramways Company**

4360. SHRI BHAGABAN DAS : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement had been arrived at between the management and workers of the Calcutta Tramways Company in the matter of D.A. some years back, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any steps had been taken by Government to implement the agreement in toto; if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) :

(a) Yes. A three-year agreement was signed between the management and workers of the Calcutta Tramways Company with regard to dearness allowance of the employee of the Company on 4-4-1964. Under this agreement, the dearness allowance of the employees was increased by certain quanta, so as to naturalise the working class living index upto 455 points and middle class living index upto 505 points. It was also agreed that, during the period the agreement remaining operative, the dearness allowance should remain automatically linked with the cost of living index and that dearness allowance for the following year should be based on the average increase in cost of living index during the previous year at Rs. 1.25 for every 5 points subject to the condition that, if the cost of living index in any year rose or fell by 40 points or more, the working of the relevant clause of the agreement would be subject to further review.

(b) All the provisions of the agreement, except clauses 11 and 12 relating to removal of anomalies in the grades and scales of staff and further increase in dearness allowance of the employees in the event of an increase in traffic receipts, were implemented by the then management of the Company. The agreement ceased to be operative in July, 1967. Even so, the Government of West Bengal, which took

over the management of the Company in that month, allowed two *ad hoc* increases of dearness allowance for the workers at Rs. 10/- each in 1969 and a further increase of Rs. 10/- in 1970. The Calcutta Tramways Company's management also drew up schemes for enhancement of emoluments of the workers and improvement of the prospects of promotion to the employees (the basic objects underlying clauses 11 and 12 of the agreement) as a part of a package deal, but the offer was not accepted by the workers.

**Nationalisation of Calcutta Tramways Company**

4361. SHRI GANESH GHOSH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to nationalise the Calcutta Tramways Company after the term of the on-trial period is over in 1971; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) :

(a) and (b). The Government of West Bengal are considering the question of purchasing the Calcutta Tramways Company. They have constituted a Negotiations Committee for the purpose.

**Enquiry against concealment of income by Volga Restaurant**

4362. SHRI K. ANIRUDHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any complaint against the owner of Volga Restaurant, New Delhi for the concealment of huge income;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against him ?