

(a) whether Government are aware that huge stocks of dolomite, salt, cotton and cotton seeds have been lying uncleared for want of wagon allotment at different places in Gujarat while the industries are starving for want of cotton and dolomite and enormous stock of these commodities have been washed off and spoiled in the current rainy season;

(b) if so, what is the total wagon requirement for the smooth clearance of these commodities per month during the working season and what is the average wagon availability for them during this period; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to ensure smooth clearance of these commodities in Gujarat in future and to clear out the present stocks expeditiously?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) to (c). The loading of dolomite and salt during the period from January to 20th July 1967 has been better as compared to the corresponding period of last year. The loading of full pressed cotton on the whole and cotton seeds from Metre Gauge stations was, however, less due to less offering of traffic.

2. The loading of dolomite from Chhota Udepur region could not, however, keep pace with the level of indent as trains on the Chhota Udepur-Miyagam Narrow Gauge section were running only during day time. Night running was introduced by special arrangement from 8-7-67, as a result of which loading of dolomite was stepped up to 57 wagons per day during the period 8-7-67 to 20-7-67 as against 27.8 wagons per day during the period 1-7-67 to 7-7-67.

3. In case of salt traffic, 1284 Broad Gauge wagons and 1791 Metre Gauge wagons were loaded more this year during the period from 1st January to 20th July, 1967 as compared to the corresponding period of last year. There was, however, some gap between loading and demand on the Metre gauge due to pressure on rail transport for movement of imported foodgrain from Kandla to destinations in U. P. and Bihar.

4. In spite of this, every effort is being made to clear the traffic in dolomite, salt and cotton seeds as expeditiously as possible.

12 hrs.

RE: CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(Procedure)

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Samar Guha.... He is not present.

Then we go to papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS OF THE UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR 1965-66, ETC.

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Annual Accounts of the University Grants Commission for the year 1965-66, together with the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1279/67].

(2) A copy of the Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 1965-66. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1280/67].

12.01 hrs.

RE. QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

Shri P. Ramamurti (Madurai): I have given notice of a privilege motion. Normally I do not raise anything in a privileged manner. I have given notice of a privilege motion two days back and yesterday when we had a discussion, you were good enough to say that we would take it up today. The Deputy Secretary also came and told me that it would be taken up today. I would only politely point out that the privilege motion, of which I had given notice, was based upon facts, for example, the First Report of the Privileges Committee, Lok Sabha, in