

maniam): (a) and (b). So far the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Board have released 550 k.w. of additional power and a further release of 360 k.w. is expected shortly. Negotiations for the release of more additional power are still going on between the Singareni Collieries Company and the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board.

Private Sector Collieries

1646. Shri Eswara Reddy: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) the amount utilised by the collieries in private sector from the loan of Rs. 18 crores given by the World Bank; and

(b) the purpose for which this amount has been utilised so far?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Out of total loan of about Rs. 17 crores the Industry has placed orders for equipment worth Rs. 13 crores and machinery worth about Rs. 5 crores has already been imported in the country.

(b) This has been utilised for meeting the foreign exchange requirements of the private sector collieries to obtain machinery and equipment in order to sustain the production of coal and to effect further development.

Soft Coke

1647. Shri Hoda: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual production of soft coke during the last three years;

(b) the grades of coal used for manufacturing soft coke; and

(c) the reasons for prohibiting use of III grade coal in making soft coke?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subra-

maniam): (a) The figures of production of soft coke are given below:—

(Figures in Million Tonnes)

Year	Production of Soft Coke
1961	1·804
1962	2·098
1963 (upto September)	1·701

(b) Grade III and Grade II coals are mostly used for the manufacture of soft coke.

(c) No restrictions or limitations have been imposed in the use of grade III coal for the manufacture of soft coke.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

TRAIN-BUS COLLISION ON MIRRAY-LATUS NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY ON 3RD DECEMBER, 1963.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh (Parbhani): I call the attention of the Minister of Railways to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The train-bus collision on Mirray-Latus narrow gauge railway on the 23rd December, 1963 resulting in several deaths."

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): At 9.30 hrs. on 3-12-1963, while train No. R10 Up Goods was running between Kalambha Road and Dhoki stations on the Kurduwadi-Latur Narrow Gauge Non-controlled section of Central Railway, it collided with a passenger bus at an unmanned level crossing at Km. 79.10.

As a result of the collision, the train engine derailed of all wheels. Three persons—the driver of the bus and two bus passengers—were killed then and there. Twenty-five other persons sustained injuries. Of these, thirteen sustained grievous injuries and the others minor. The injured persons

[Shri S. V. Ramaswamy]

were removed to the Civil Hospital, Osmanabad by the police authorities by road. Of these one person succumbed to his injuries later. According to the latest information, ten persons have been discharged and the remaining fourteen are said to be progressing.

On receipt of information about the accident, the Divisional Officers of the Sholapur Division of Central Railway rushed to the site by road from Sholapur and with breakdown train from Kurduwadi.

The section was cleared of obstruction and became available for through running of trains at 21.35 hrs. on 3-12-1963.

Ex-gratia payments to the extent of Rs. 3650 were made by the Central Railway Administration to the next of kin of the dead and to the injured.

Enquiry by a Committee of Senior Scale Officers which had been appointed to investigate the cause of the accident has been completed. Their report is awaited.

The view from the road of the railway track and from the railway track of the road is quite clear for a distance of about a 1000 ft.

Road signs are installed on the road on either side of the level crossing warning the road users to stop and look carefully before proceeding ahead and crossing the railway track.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: May I know whether it is a fact that this unmanned railway crossing, as has been stated by the Minister, is just in the nearest proximity of the railway station, and further, may I know what has happened to the standing instructions wherein the drivers of all trains including goods trains are required to stop and then proceed when approaching a level crossing?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: There is no such instruction. It is utterly impossible for the trains to stop at the level crossing and then proceed. What progress can be made then?

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: It was discussed in this House. The instructions were that the train should stop when approaching the level crossing.

Mr. Speaker: The instructions are just the reverse. The road-users should stop and see whether there is any train approaching; not that the engine should stop. The train which is running cannot stop at each level crossing.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: May I know whether it is a fact that this railway engine on the narrow gauge train actually went into the bus and carried the bus to a distance of about two furlongs along with it, due to which the number of casualties and the injured was large?

Mr. Speaker: For that, we should await the result of the enquiry.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Yes, Sir

श्री तु० श्र० पाटिल (उसमानाबाद) : यह लातूर-जंजलापुर रोड स्टेट हाईवे है और इस पर बसों और ट्रकों का काफी आमतौर पर रहता है तो इस को दृष्टि में रखते हुए इसे अनमैंड रेलवे क्रॉसिंग पर जहाँ कि यह एक्सप्रेस ट्रेन, बस रेलवे मेंवालय कोई गेट लगा कर कोई चौकीदार तैनात करने का विचार कर रही है ?

Mr. Speaker: He says that there is considerable traffic on this section, and therefore wants to know whether the Government is considering to man this railway level crossing.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The traffic on this section is very light: one passenger, two mixed trains and one goods train only on this section run every day.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: My question has not been answered.

श्री रामसेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस मामले में आप का

इस्तक्षेप चाहता हूं। मैं कोई प्रश्न नहीं करना चाहता लेकिन यह बतलाना चाहता हूं कि इस छूटे से सत्र में यह तीसरी दुर्घटना है जिस में कि आदमियों की जान से खेला जाता है। आप सदन की मदद करें और गाइड करें कि आखिर किस तरीके से यह मामला ठीक हो सकता है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर मैं इस में मदद भी करूँ तो एक अनमंडल रेलवे क्रीसिंग पर खड़ा हो सकता हूँ लेकिन बाकी कहाँ कहाँ मैं खड़ा हो सकता हूँ ?

श्री रामसेवक यादव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप भी खड़े हो जायें और सदन के सब सदस्य भी इस काम को करें तब भी यह समस्या हल होने वाली नहीं है।

Shri Sonavane (Pandharpur): Sir, on a point of information. When we get up we do not get a chance. When they get up, they get a chance.

Mr. Speaker: I have not allowed anybody any chance except to those who are signatories.

12.26 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORTS UNDER COMPANIES ACT, AND REVIEW BY GOVERNMENT THEREON

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri Sethi): On behalf of Shri C. Subramaniam, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) a copy each of the following Reports under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Annual Report of the Praga Tools Corporation Limited, Secunderabad, for the year 1962-63 along with the Audit-

ted Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2102/63].

- (ii) Annual Report of the Heavy Electricals (India) Limited, Bhopal for the year 1962-63 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A copy each of the Review by the Government on the working of above Companies. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2103/63.]

COTTON CONTROL (SECOND AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1963, RUBBER (FOURTH AMENDMENT) RULES, 1963, AND ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADE CONTROL ORGANISATION FOR 1962-63

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers:—

- (i) The Cotton Control (Second Amendment) Order, 1963 published in Notification No. S.O. 3131 dated the 9th November, 1963, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2104/63].
- (ii) The Rubber (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1963, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1804 dated the 23rd November, 1963, under sub-section (3) of section 25 of the Rubber Act, 1947. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2105/63].
- (iii) Annual Administration Report of the Import and Export Trade Control Organisation for the year 1962-63. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2106/63].