Catering services on trains

*920. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that deteriorating catering services on trains were brought into sharp focus when a senior officer of the Railways inspected the pantry cars of four of the most prestigious trains;
- (b) if so, the trains inspected by him and the nature of defects found; and
- (c) the steps taken to improve the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIA-MENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c): Periodical inspections, including inspections by Senior officers, are conducted of catering/vending establishments including mobile units. Deficiencies noticed during the course of inspections are rectified and suitable action taken.

This is a continuous process.

Responsibility for theft of 118 Handloom Bales

*921. SHRI RAM PYARE PANI-KA: Will the Minister of RAIL-WAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6419 on the 11th April, 1978 regarding claims against Railway Administration and state:

- (a) whether enquiry held under Discipline and Appeal Rules about eight handloom bundles fixed responsibility on the then Chief Parcel Clerk, New Delhi and other concerned staff and held them responsible for the theft thereof;
- (b) whether total value of 126 handloom bales, brass consignments $\mathbf{o}_{\mathbf{r}}$ other miscellaneous items found

- missing in Parcel godown was Rs. 8.04,256/-
- (c) whether enquiry under Discipline and Appeal Rules about the rest 118 handloom bales and brass consignments and other miscellaneous items has also fixed responsibility against the then Chief Parcel Clerk, New Delhi and other concerned Parcel Staff:
- (d) if not, the reasons thereof; and
- (e) the particulars of the then Chief Parcel Clerk and other Parcel staff, New Delhi held responsible for the theft of 118 handloom bales and brass consignments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIATARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The case is under investigation.

Allotment of Plot at Korukkapet for Coal

*922. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAI-DU: Will the Minister of RAIL-WAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there was any representation to Government given by the Tamil Nadu Brick and Tiles manufacturers Industrial Service Cooperative Society Ltd., Madras to allot a plot at Korukkapet Goods Shed, Madras to stack coal;
- (b) if so, when it has been made, and
- (c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A representation was received in January, 1975.