

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका ख्याल है कि इन को बकालत करने के लिए हाई कोर्ट भेज दिया जाय ।

श्री पी० के० थुंगन : वहां जाकर तो और माइन करेंगे । इनका कहना है कि मिनिमम वेजेस एकट के अन्दर इसको और बढ़ाना चाहिए । मैं उनको स्पष्ट कर देना चाहता हूं कि हम आंगनवाड़ी कर्मचारियों को वेज नहीं दे रहे हैं सिर्फ आनरेरीयम ही दे रहे हैं । इसलिए, दोनों में अन्तर है ।

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMI : This is called subversion of the law.

(Interruptions)

श्री पी० के० थुंगन : यह स्कीम कमजोर वर्ग के जितने भी लोग हैं, उनको सुविधा देने के लिए बनाई गई है । इसलिए, इसमें मिनिमम वेजेस एकट का जो सवाल है, वह नहीं आता है और इसी वजह से हम उन्हें आनरेरीयम दे रहे हैं ।

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : How is it a question of honorarium ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. K. THUNGAN : They are only working for this purpose.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : This is a clear exploitation, Sir.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing you.

(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : सरकार ने जो लीगल स्टैण्ड लिया है, वह ठीक है । मैं इससे ज्यादा और सवाल अलाऊ नहीं कर सकता ।

*Not recorded

Charges for Bed Rolls

*544. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has recently been an increase in the charges for bed-rolls supplied to the passengers in the railways ;

(b) if so, to what extent ;

(c) how many times this increase has taken place during last five years, year-wise; and

(d) whether the increase has been made on the recommendation of any Advisory Board or the decisions were taken by administrative authorities ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Hon. Minister for reducing the bed roll charges from Rs. 10/- to Rs. 5/- in the case of 1st/AC 2 tier classes and from Rs. 5/- to Rs. 2/- in the case of II class.

SHRI A. T. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on point of information. The Hon. Minister has said: 'A statement is laid on this Table'. It is not so. The answers are given in parts (a) to (d).

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought it was another question.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a human error.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL : Sir, the Hon. Minister seems to have rolled in a bed-roll.

MR. SPEAKER : No, the question paper was rolled.

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI : (a) and (b) Having regard to the cost of bed rolls, their maintenance and servicing the charges for hire of the same were increased in May 1982 from Rs. 4/- per bed roll per night or part thereof to Rs. 10/- per bed roll per night for passengers travelling in 1st/AC 2 tier classes and from Rs. 1.50 to 5/- per bed roll per night or part thereof for passengers travelling in II class. However, on receipt of several representations against the rise, the hire charges of bed rolls were reduced in August 1982 from Rs. 10/- to Rs. 5/- per bed roll per night for passengers travelling in 1st class/AC 2 tier and from Rs. 5/- to Rs. 2/- per bed roll per night for passengers travelling in II class.

(c) Only once in May 1982.

(d) It was an administrative decision.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : I said earlier that I thanked the hon. Minister for having responded to the demand of the people. However, I would like to know from him what additional facilities the Railway Administration has provided commensurate with the increase in the charges for the bed-roll, because it is our common experience that worn-out blankets, bed-sheets etc. are being provided to passengers.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is only a question about bed-rolls.

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI : What we have done is that there used to be a complaint that the passengers were not getting enough bed-rolls. We are trying to supply passengers with adequate number of bed-rolls, so that there is no complaint. That is all we are trying to do.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : The hon. Minister has said that it is an administrative decision. In the case of increase in fares and freight, the Minister has come to the House to propose the increase and take the approval of Parliament. In this particular case, what is the harm if he comes to Parlia-

ment with the proposal, so that the proposal for increased charges can get approval from Parliament ?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI : It was done in May 1982, once. It was actually an administrative decision which they took. They did it.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I think the Minister should be aware that the number of bed-rolls provided for a full train of A.C.-2-tier and First Class passengers is very inadequate. A number of passengers come with the expectation of having a bed-roll. Ultimately, they do not get anything; and having paid a First Class or A.C. fare, they have to shiver in cold, particularly in the A.C., compartments. In the long-distance trains, especially between Howrah and New Delhi, it is practically not provided. For a total of 47 passengers, only four bed-rolls are there. Will this situation be remedied by the Minister ?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI : I have said earlier that I do admit that the bed-rolls were not adequate. Now I am trying to increase the number, so that it becomes adequate. I think very soon the hon. Member will know from his own experience that things have improved. (ends)

Reappearance of Yaws

*545. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Health Organisation had alerted the Government against the reappearance of yaws, a skin disease prevalent in the country before 1950; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check it ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The World Health Organisation has not alerted the Govern-