

(c) the action Railway Administration propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Complaints had been received alleging commission of fraud in the matter of levy of demurrage charges in respect of wagons placed in the 'B' Power House Siding, Harduaganj in July 1970.

(b) and (c) : The complaints have been looked into. Regarding the results of enquiry and the action taken in the matter, a statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Enquiries into the complaints indicate that there is *prima facie* evidence to show that the amount of demurrage leviable on the 'B' Power House, Harduaganj for July '70, initially assessed as Rs. 34,242.80 paise, was later on revised to Rs. 4,471.70 paise by two Siding Clerks, by tampering with the records. Departmental action is being taken against them and the Clerk responsible has been placed under suspension. The correct amount leviable as demurrage on the 'B' Power House, Harduaganj for July '70 works out to Rs. 33,870.10 P., as per enquiries. The Northern Railway Administration has been asked to follow up the matter with the Power House authorities with a view to effect recovery of the due amount.

New Railway Lines in Palamau District (Bihar)

*113. **KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to open new Railway Lines and increase the number of Passenger trains in Palamau District of Bihar ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b) . No, Sir. It will not be possible to consider the construction of any new

rail link at present in the Palamau District of Bihar. No new train is proposed, as only last year No. 1/2 Gomoh-Barwadih/ train was extended upto Garhwa Road.

Ban on Transfer of Officers connected with polling and maintenance of Law and Order

*115. **SHRI P. GANGADEB :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission had recommended to Government to impose a ban on transfer of all Officers connected with polling and maintenance of law and order until Elections to the State Assemblies were over ;

(b) whether the Election Commission had sent a circular to all the Chief Secretaries of the States in this regard ; and

(c) if so, whether all the State Governments followed this recommendation during the recent Elections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir.

(c) All the concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have issued appropriate orders in the matter.

Abolition of Second Class Accommodation in Trains

*116. **SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided not to abolish Second Class accommodation in trains ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. It was decided not to withdraw the Second Class accommodation on section where it has survived. The matter is, however, under review.

(b) Second Class accommodation serves a class of people who cannot afford First Class fare but who desire a slightly higher standard of travel as compared to Third Class.

U. S. Loan for Production of Nylon Yarn

*118. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether U. S. Government have extended any loan to an Indo-American joint enterprise to help increase production of Nylon Yarn; and

(b) if so, the main features of loan ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Two companies—M/s. Modipon Ltd. and M/s. Shree Synthetics Ltd., which have American equity participation, have been given loans by the U. S. Government for setting up units to manufacture nylon yarn.

M/s. Modipon has secured a loan of Rs. 182 lakhs under US AID (Colley Fund) loan. The salient terms of the loan are as under :—

- (i) it is repayable in 16 equal half-yearly instalments;
- (ii) it bears interest at the rate of 8% payable half yearly.

M/s. Shree Synthetics are currently erecting a nylon plant with licensed capacity of 1100 tonnes per annum, in which M/S. Chemtex U.S.A. have financial participation worth Rs. 60 lakhs. For implementation of this project they have been issued following two C.G. licences for the value as noted against each :—

1. Licence No. P/C/2061352 dated

17.12.1969 under US Aid Loan No. 386—H—200 for Rs. 59.25 lakhs.

2. Licence No. P/C/2062064 dated 26.11.1970 for Rs. 205.75 lakhs.

- (a) Foreign Exchange Loan equivalent to Rs. 1,45,75,000/- from Exim Bank of U.S.A., Washington.
- (b) Rs. 60 lakhs worth equity shares of the Company to M/s. Chemtex Fibre, New York.

M/s. Shree Synthetics Ltd., have also secured a rupee loan from U.S. AID authorities of Rs. 100 lakhs. The salient terms of the loan are as under :—

- (i) repayment is in 19 equal semi-annual instalments;
- (ii) the first instalment is due four years after the date of first disbursement;
- (iii) rate of interest chargeable is 8% per annum payable semi-annually.

Recommendation of Committee to investigate causes of flood

*120. SHRI S. LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the salient recommendations made by the Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power to investigate the causes of floods and Recommend measures to prevent heavy losses; and

(b) the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) and (b). The Ministers' Committee on Floods and Flood Relief have completed their work and their report is expected to be submitted to Government shortly.