SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : It does arise, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : It is too general a question.

DR. K.L. RAO : Now that you are taking up rural electrification programme, you should have sufficient amount of generation of power. That is what the hon. Member is asking and I think the relevance of the question is in that.

We have got to be careful to see that generation is there. Merely increasing the demand does not solve the problem. We are fully alive to this problem and are planning increased generation of power. We are fixing the target for 1981 as 51 Million Kilowatts as against the 17 that we have today. We are trying to do our best to see that generation copes up with the demand to meet the needs of the country in industry and agriculture.

अखिल भारतीय स्टेशन मास्टर्स एसोसिएशन झांसी डिवीजन (मध्य रेलवे) के द्वारा धन के गोल-माल के बारे में लगाए गये आरोपों की जांच

*185. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को "अखिल भारतीय स्टेशन मास्टर्स एसोसिएशन" झांसी डिवीजन, मध्य रेलवे से इस आशय का एक ज्ञापन मिला है कि कैश आफिस, झांसी, मध्य रेलवे में लाखों का गोल-माल है;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इसकी जांच कराई है; और

(ग) भविष्य में इस प्रकार के गोल-माल को रोकने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठाने जा रही है ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No, Sir. However, a copy of a complaint from All India Station Masters' Association, Jhansi Division was received from the Hon. Member by the Minister for Railways.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Enquiry into allegation regarding misappropriation of money levelled by All India Station Masters' Association, Jhansi Division (Central Railway)

(a) Certain cases of short receipt of cash remitted by various stations to the Regional Cash Office, Jhansi, have been reported during the last few years.

(b) Each of these cases has been, or is being enquired into by Departmental Enquiry Committees and the local police. In no case finalised so far, has loss been established to have occurred in the cash office. The following steps have been introduced to avoid cash thefts in future :—

(i) Direct remittance of station earnings into the local branches of the State Bank of India has been started at 17 stations on the Jhansi Division.

(ii) In the case of certain other important stations, arrangements have been made to collect the earnings through faster trains without involving transhipment of the travelling cash safes.

Further, a Junior Administrative Grade Officers' Committee has been appointed to, *inter alia*, make suggestions for improvements in the method of remittance in order to avoid losses.

श्री हुकमचंद कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं मंत्री महोदय से कि झांसी मडल में पिछले अनेक दिनों से, बल्कि अनेक वर्षों से पैसे की चोरी हो रही है, यह सूचना आप को पहली बार कब मिली और जब पता लगा कि पैसे की चोरी हो रही है तो आप ने उस समय तत्काल कौन सा ठोस कदम उठाया ? क्या यह बात सही है कि इस के

कारण आप ने काफी स्टेशन मास्टरों को स्थानान्तरित किया और उन को सजा दी, जब कि वह इस के दोषी नहीं हैं ? क्या आप ने इस की खोज की है कि यह जो चोरी हुई है यह कौन ग्रुप इस तरह से वर्षों से करता आ रहा है ?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : So far as I could catch the translation, the complaint contains allegations against some people. Enquiries have been made in these cases. Today I called all the Members of the Board and also the Chairman of the Board and I have given instructions so that such cases may not recur I have also issued instructions that these enquiries which are pending for a long time must be expedited and suitable punishment awarded.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह बात सही है कि यह घटना पिछले अनेक दिनों से हो रही है और उस की वजह से आप ने काफी लोगों को दण्ड दिया है लेकिन उस का हल नहीं निकला ? जिन को दण्ड दिया वह उस में शामिल नहीं है । जिन के पास माल जाता है, जो गार्ड ले जाता है उन के खिलाफ आप ने कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की ?

दूसरे मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कितने पैसे की चोरी अब तक हुई है इस का कोई अनुमान आप ने लगाया है और भविष्य में इस प्रकार की घटनाएं न हों उस के लिए कौन से ठोस कदम उठाए है ? जो पैसा आता है स्टेशन पर वह पैसा नगर के किसी बैंक मे तत्काल जमा कर दिया जाय ऐसा कोई आदेश आप ने दिया है क्या ?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : As the hon. Member says, it is true that these losses have been occurring for a long time. Now we propose to take stringent action. There is also the treasury system ; wherever there is a branch of the State Bank, collections are being remitted to the bank. We have appointed a committee of three officers to suggest further improvements so that such losses do not take place.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Savant.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : कितने पैसे चोरी गए पिछले दिनों में यह आप ने नहीं बताया ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : दूसरे मेम्बर को बुलाने के पहले आप को यह कर लेना चाहिए था । जब मैं ने दूसरे मेम्बर को बुला लिया तब इस तरह प्रश्न करना ठीक नही है ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब नही आया था, इसलिए मैं ने पूछा ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह दूसरे मेम्बर को बुलाने से पहले हो जाना चाहिए था ।

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : So far as Jhansi Division is concerned, there have been 8 cases. The amount involved is not much—Rs. 4,000 in one case, Rs. 3402, Rs. 22,000, Rs. 33,122, Rs. 1000, and Rs. 23,482 in other cases.

MR. SPEAKER : Still it is not much !

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT : May I know the total amount misappropriated, the *modus operandi* and whether there have been such misappropriations at any other place ?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : Yes, in other places also such things have happened. I propose now to take very stringent action. In all the railways in India, the number of cases in 1969 was 51 involving below Rs. 5000 each and 7 above Rs. 5000. In 1970, there are 29 cases of losses below Rs. 5000 each and only three cases above Rs. 5000.

Decline in Export of Fish

*186. SHRI D.K. PANDA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of various items of fish to various countries has fallen considerably this year;

(b) whether Government have received