

regulated under the other provisions of this Act and the Rules framed by the Central Government in this connection. Since no such notification in respect of the Railway establishments as required under Section 10 of the Act, has been issued by the Ministry of Labour, so far, the question of abolition of contract system in these operations on Railways does not arise at this stage.

Casual labour is engaged by the Railways on works of a casual nature and the employment of such labour has not been prohibited under any statute.

The receipt of coal traffic at all the Loco Sheds depends on its demand and availability and is not regular on all the days but intermittent and spasmodic. Removal of coal ash also is done occasionally at smaller sheds and somewhat more frequently at bigger sheds. While the work of loading and unloading of parcels at *big* Railway stations and *big* goods sheds is more or less of a regular nature, the quantum of traffic fluctuates considerably from day to day at each station or goods shed. Thus, although the nature of work is not wholly intermittent the quantum fluctuates considerably.

(b) Some representations have been received for abolition of contract system or against the employment of casual labour on such works at certain Loco Sheds, stations and goods sheds. Pending Government's decision in consultation with and after examination by the Statutory, Advisory Board and issue of necessary notification under Section 10 of the Act by the Ministry of Labour specifying the particular areas/installations/locations in which contract system should be actually eliminated, a directive was issued to the Railways in July 1968 advising them not to change over to contract working any items which had been traditionally handled departmentally on Railways. At many places the handling contracts have been awarded to Labour Cooperative Societies also.

Demand of Rs. 50 Lakhs by Mysore for Flood Relief In Tunkur District

*125. SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Mysore have approached the Central Government for grant of Rs. 50 lakh provisionally for the relief of these affected by the recent floods in Tunkur District and also for repairs of essential communications and irrigation works ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request of the State Government was examined and it was found that the relief amount required was only Rs. 22 lakhs and this is within the expenditure of Rs. 44 lakhs provided by the Finance Commission which the State must incur before asking for Central assistance. For repairs of damaged works, the State Government is to send a separate request. The State Government have been informed of this position.

लाइसेंस-प्राप्त ठेकेदारों को माल डिब्बों की सप्लाई

*128. श्री नाथूराम अहिरवार : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रेलवे विभाग केवल उन्हीं नमक के ठेकेदारों को माल डिब्बे सप्लाई करता है जिनके पास सरकारी लाइसेंस है ;

(ख) क्या रेलवे विभाग उन लोगों को नमक के परिवहन के लिये माल डिब्बे सप्लाई नहीं करता जो अपनी निजी मूमि पर नमक का उत्पादन करते हैं ; और

(ग) क्या सरकारी तथा गैरसरकारी दोनों प्रकार के नमक व्यापारियों को रेल के माल डिब्बे उपलब्ध कराये जायेंगे ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री टी. ए. पाई) (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) जी हां । सभी मांगकर्ताओं को प्राथमिकता के अनुसार और रजिस्ट्रेशन के क्रम से माल डिब्बों की सप्लाई पहले से ही की जा रही है ।

Nationalisation of Export Trade of Coir

*131. SHRI P. K. DEO
SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to take over export of coir products ; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). To improve the competitive position of coir goods in the world market and to put the labour intensive coir industry on a sound footing, there is a proposal to canalise export of coir.

Electrification of Ernakulam-Trivandrum Line

*132. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THAN-KAPPAN :
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala had offered to make available electricity at reasonable rates for the electrification of Ernakulam-Trivandrum line ; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to low density of traffic, the heavy capital investment on electrification of this section is not economically justified, even after taking into account the electric energy being made available at low rates.

Supply of Coal to Bangladesh

*133. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether against an agreement reached for supply of six lakh tonnes of coal to Bangladesh by India, only 60,000 tonnes have so far been ordered for supply ;

(b) whether some differences over the price of coal have developed between the two countries ; and

(c) if so, the nature of differences and whether any settlement has since been reached ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) To meet the urgent requirements of Bangladesh, the Government of India are supplying 50,000 tonnes of coal under their Commodity and Relief Grants.

Besides this, there is provision for commercial exports of coal to the extent of Rs. 4 crores under the Trade Agreement between India and Bangladesh. In terms of this, the Coal Controller of Bangladesh has placed orders for 60,000 tonnes of coal at prices mutually agreed between him and the MMTC. These prices are lower than prices obtained elsewhere by the MMTC for exports of similar coals.

Details of further exports to Bangladesh are to be discussed shortly between the Coal Controller, Bangladesh and the MMTC, after an assessment has been made of the requirements of the different centres of consumption in Bangladesh and of the railway and river transport arrangements in that country.

(b) and (c). There have been no differences between the two Governments on the approach to prices to be charged. It is recognised by both the Governments that it would be in their long term interest for trade transactions to take place at competitive prices.

There have been unfounded reports in the press of prices being higher than prices in the domestic market. These have obviously emanated from quarters who are not reconciled to state trading.

Construction of Major Reservoir across the Godavari

*134. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY :
SHRI B. K. MODAK :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly has passed a Resolution requesting the Centre to construct major reservoir across the Godavari river ;

(b) whether the State Government have submitted any scheme in this connection ; if so, the broad outlines thereof ;

(c) the estimated cost of the scheme ; and

(d) the decisions taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). No scheme has been so far received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for irrigation of areas in Vishakhapatnam and Srikakulam district by Godavari waters. Further, the consideration of any such scheme would have to await the award of the Godavari Tribunal.