

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The Diesel engine was only damaged and the cost of damage has been estimated at approximately Rs. 11,090/-.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The cost of damage to railway property has been estimated at approximately Rs. 82,940/-.

श्री हरदयाल देवगुण : श्रीमन्, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस दुर्घटना के बारे में जो जांच करवाई गई है, उसके क्या निष्कर्ष निकले हैं। क्या मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि इस दुर्घटना के क्या कारण थे और ऐसे कारणों को दूर करने के लिए रेलवे मंत्रालय और रेलवे बोर्ड क्या कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : This was a goods train which left Cochin and the engine of the train derailed while approaching the bridge. Because of the momentum the train was carried beyond the bridge and it stopped after that. Fifteen wagons adjacent to the engine capsized and fell from the bridge. There has been no casualties. The matter is under investigation and the report has not yet come.

श्री हरदयाल देवगुण : श्रीमन्, पिछले एक वर्ष से बहुत सी रेल-दुर्घटनाएँ हो रही हैं जिनके बारे में इस सदन में बार-बार चिन्ता व्यक्त की गई है। परन्तु जैसे ही किसी दुर्घटना के बारे में यहाँ चिन्ता व्यक्त की जाती है और सरकार की ओर से यह आश्वासन दिया जाता है कि रेल दुर्घटनाओं को रोकने की कोशिश की जायेगी, एक और रेल दुर्घटना हो जाती है। यह सदन, और इस के द्वारा देश यह जानना चाहता है कि क्या इन दुर्घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए सरकार गम्भीरता से कोई कदम उठा रही है या नहीं। यहाँ बार-बार यह शिकायत की गई है कि रेलवे के रनिंग स्टाफ को पर्याप्त सुविधायें प्राप्त नहीं हैं, उन

से आवश्यकता से अधिक काम लिया जाता है, उन को स्टेशन के नजदीक नहीं ठहराया जाता है, रेल की पटरियों का जो निरीक्षण होना चाहिए, वह नहीं होता है और इन प्रकार की लापरवाहियों से ये रेल दुर्घटनाएँ होती हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि रेल पटरियों का ठीक प्रकार से निरीक्षण हो, रनिंग स्टाफ को उचित सुविधायें दी जायें, चलाने से पहले इंजिन वगैरह की अच्छी तरह से जांच-पड़ताल हो और उनका मोमेंटम ठीक रख कर चलाया जाये, सरकार ने इस बारे में क्या किया है। और क्या वह कुछ करना भी चाहती है या नहीं।

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : I can very well understand the concern of the hon. Members because of a few accidents.

SOME HON MEMBERS : A few ?

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : We have already stated on the floor of the House that we have constituted a high power committee with Mr. Wanchoo as Chairman and some other persons as members. They are now going into the entire matter and they will complete their report very soon, when it will be made available to the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question—absent. Next question.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Q. 1547 also may be answered along with 1535.

H. E. C., Ranchi

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*1535. SHRI TENNETI VISWANATHAM :
SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been reported in the Engineering Times of the 1st April, 1968, that in Delhi as well as in Ranchi, there is genuine apprehension regarding the

pending crisis in the utilisation of the capacity of the Heavy Engineering Corporation which depicts a gloomy future for the Corporation ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the proposed remedial steps for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government are already seized of the problem of unutilised capacity in the various plants of Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd., and have initiated necessary action to ensure that the plants are loaded with orders to the maximum extent. As regards the Heavy Machine Building Plant of the Company, a team of Soviet Experts was recently in India to study the problems of the plant. Their Report was recently received and the various recommendations made therein are under consideration.

Heavy Engineering Corporation,
Ranchi

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*1547. SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman of the Heavy Engineering Corporation is reported to have stated that one of the causes of low efficiency in Heavy Engineering Corporation was prevalence of communalism and casteism among the employees of the Corporation ;

(b) whether Government have since taken steps to bring an end to virus of communalism in the organisation ; and

(c) the other steps which are proposed to be taken to tone up the administrative set-up of the Heavy Engineering Corporation so as to make it a profit making organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI) : (a) No such report has been brought to Government's notice.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The matter is under consideration of the new Chairman and further action will be taken as and when necessary.

SHRI TENNETI VISWANATHAM : The Chairman of the Corporation has said that he would continue to be active in politics and to work for the socialist pattern of society at the same time. Has the Government enquired how this interesting experiment is being carried on ?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : He is an honorary Chairman ; he does not draw any salary from the Heavy Engineering Corporation, and he is free to take part in politics.

SHRI TENNETI VISWANATHAM : My question was not that he cannot take part in politics, but how he could combine the working of the Corporation along with the conversion of society into socialist pattern. How is he carrying on this experiment and what impact has it upon the working of the Corporation. That is what I wanted to know.

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : The practice is that quite a few Members of the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha are Members of Corporation of this type and they continue to be Chairman or Members there as well as Members of parliament.

SHRI TENNETI VISWANATHAM : My question was different. I was asking only about the impact of this, upon the working of the Corporation. I am not saying that he is not interested in politics or that he cannot take part in politics.

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : When one believes in socialism and runs a company, perhaps it will have a better effect on the company than it would be otherwise.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI : On the one hand, the plant is running with idle capacity and, on the other hand, the orders placed with them are executed after one year. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he has enquired about these matters and what action has been taken to improve the efficiency ?