

(b) the steps which Government propose to take to step up the tempo of work for an early completion of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : (a) The expenditure incurred so far on metropolitan rail transport projects is —

Calcutta	Rs. 29.56 crores
Bombay	Rs. 10 lakhs

In Calcutta 11.5% of the work has been done, while in Bombay the work has just been started.

(b) Every effort is made to obtain as much fund as possible keeping in view the overall requirements of economy.

♦419. [Transferred to the 13th December 1977.]

Corruption in the Railways

*420. SHRI SITARAM KESRI :
SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN
SINGH : SHRI
DHARAMCHAND JAIN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the *Hindustan Times* of the 13th September, 1977 regarding prevalence of corruption in the Railways : and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is presumably based on the report of the One Man Expert Committee on Railway Security and Protection by Shri Kripal Singh, constituted by the Ministry of Railways to go into the question of security on railways. The Railway Board have carefully considered all the

recommendations of the Committee and issued suitable instructions to all the departments concerned. The Security and Vigilance departments have been geared up to tackle the problem of thefts and corruption. Deterrent action is being taken against the corrupt and anti-social elements among the employees. The system of loading and carriage of consignments has been improved based on the recommendations of the Committee. Anti-Fraud Squads have been formed in the Zonal Railways to deal with the problem of fraudulent diversion of wagons, forgeries, etc. Continuous vigil is being kept on habitual criminals and receivers of stolen property by the RPF and Govt. Rly. Police. Consequently, there is perceptible improvement in the performance of the Railways.

Purchase of shares by Chairman and Managing Director of the Mysore Paper Mills Ltd., Bhadravati, Karnataka

S.N.Q. 2. SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman and the Managing Director of the Mysore Paper Mills Ltd., Bhadravati, Karnataka, purchased recently 4,50,000 shares of that company;

(b) if so, what is the rate at which the purchase was made and what was the rate at which the shares of this company were sold in the market on the day of purchase or on the previous day;

(c) whether the purchase of shares was made through the stock exchange; and

(d) whether this deal is in order; if not, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSAHN) : (a) No, Sir.

However, the Government of Karnataka State has purchased 4499° shares of the face value of Rs. 10/- each of M/s Mysore Paper Mills Ltd., during September and October, 1977.

(b) The aforesaid purchase was made at the rate of Rs. 20/- per share. The rate of these shares quoted in the Bangalore Stock Exchange at the relevant time was about Rs. 9.50 per share.

(c) Although the purchase was put through a Share Broker, it appears that the deal was struck through private negotiations.

(d) This is a matter for the Government of Karnataka to take a view who feel that there were sufficient reasons to conclude the deal.

-Grant of advance increments to Stock Verifiers

814. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a stock verifier who passed the appendix 4 examination before the 1st January, 1973 and a stock verifier passing the same examination after that date are treated differently in the matter of implementation of award given by the Board of Arbitration in respect of two additional increments as per Railway Board's letter No. E(P&A)I-73/PS-5/ACI dated the 5th November, 1974; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) : (a) and (b) Stock Verifiers who passed Appendix 4 examination prior to 1-1-1973 were due 2 advance increments in the authorised scale. The manner in which incentive should be granted in the revised scale to those who qualify after 1-1-1973 is linked with the general issue relating to Appendix 2 qualified accounts staff, which is already, under consideration of Government.

Production of Gas from the South Bassein oil field

815. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of natural non-associated gas, in cubic metres, expected to be produced from the South Bassein oil field;

(b) whether Government propose to transport any part of this gas to Gujarat by a pipeline; and

(c) if so, whether the pipeline will be laid to Hajira under the sea or it will be laid over-land from Tarapur ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) On the basis of tentative estimates, a production potential of 10 million cubic metres of free gas per day has been indicated.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) Necessary studies have been ordered for selecting the most suitable alignment of the proposed pipeline.

Facilities for separation of Associated Gas

816. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide facilities for separation of C2 & C3 fraction from the associated gas for the manufacture of petro-chemicals at Uran;

(b) if so, what is the quantum of lean gas proposed to be supplied after separation to the Fertilizer Corporation of India's fertilizer plant at Trombay and to the fertiliser complex at Rewas; and

(c) what is the quantum of C2 & C3 fraction that will be used by the gas