

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, there is a table which gives the information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you read the whole table?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, it is a small one. As far as the payment is concerned, the table is small. Now, as far as the claims are concerned, the number of claims received on behalf of those killed is 74; from those grievously injured—10, and from those having received simple injuries—26. Thus, the total number of claims is 110. The number of claims disposed of by the Claims Commissioner is 43 in the case of those killed, in the case of those having received grievous injuries, 8 out of 10, in the case of those having received simple injuries, 22 out of 26. On the whole, out of 110, 73 claims have been disposed of. The compensation paid to the nearest kin of the killed is Rs. 6,13,874; in the case of those grievously injured, it is Rs. 43,200; and in the case of those having received simple injuries, it is Rs. 51,930. The total compensation paid is Rs. 7,14,004.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN: Shri Shaukat Ali had lost two of his minor sons and a minor daughter. Is it a fact that his claim had been rejected on the ground that he was not dependent on his minor son or minor daughter, though he was their legal heir? If that be the legal position, may I ask the hon. Minister whether he will provide some pecuniary compensation to such category of claimants on the grounds of compassion, equity and hardship?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: There are certain set norms and rules by which the Claims Commissioner conducts his work. May be, the particular case which he has mentioned did not conform to the set norms and rules. But I will inquire into the case and, even if it could not be settled on the basis of compensation by the Claims Commissioner—if the case is genuine—I will try to see if anything

could be done through the Minister's Relief Fund.

Toilet facilities in Second Class compartments.

*698. SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN

CHOUDHURY: DR. V. P. DUTT:

SHRI HARSH DEO MALA-

VIYA: t SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD

NANDA: t Will the Minister of

RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the toilet facilities in second class compartments in most of the trains are far from satisfactory which results in great inconvenience to passengers;

(a) whether Government are aware that water taps provided in such compartments are of inferior quality and do not work properly; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps are being taken to bring about improvements in this regard?

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

Statement

(a) Toilet facilities in II class coaches in service are generally satisfactory, except for occasional complaints of inconvenience caused to passengers due to poor cleanliness or non-availability of water in the toilets.

(b) Standard type of water taps, *vis.* spring loaded push cocks, are provided in all toilets and their working has been generally satisfactory.

(c) Special attention is paid to ensure proper cleanliness of toilets and

fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Harsh Deo Malaviya.

availability of water in them throughout the run of the train. Push cocks with improved type of springs are being provided to replace those which are found hard and difficult to operate.

श्री हर्षदेव मालवीय : मान्यवर, हम ने इस प्रश्न में जो बातें पूछी हैं उन सब से मंत्री जी ने इन्कार कर दिया कि डिब्बे में बड़ा आराम है । कोई दिक्कत नहीं है और सब ठीक-ठाक है । मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि आप ने अन्तिम बार सेकिड क्लास में कब सफर किया था ? कितने दिन पहले आप सेकिड क्लास में चले थे ।

श्री शिव नारायण : श्रीमन्, जब मैं पार्लियामेंट का सैम्बर नहीं था मैंने सेकिड क्लास में ट्रेविल किया है, उसका मुझे पूरा ज्ञान है । कुछ जगहों में है और कुछ जगहों पर मैं इन्तजाम करवा रहा हूँ ।

श्री हर्षदेव मालवीय : मान्यवर, थोड़ी सी इन्होंने अपनी पोजीशन बदली कि कुछ जगहों पर ठीक नहीं है । क्या आपको मालूम है कि नलके से जो पानी निकालना पड़ता है उसके लिए हाथी के जोर की जरूरत पड़ती है, हाथी की ताकत लगानी पड़ती है । आपने कितनी ताकत लगाई थी ?

श्री शिव नारायण : श्रीमन्, ट्रेन में कोई हाथी नहीं चलता है, इन्सान चलते हैं । लेकिन इनको अगर हाथी की ताकत लगानी पड़ती है तो मैं इनकी तारीफ करूंगा कि हाथी का बल इनके पास है । लेकिन हाथी ट्रेन में कोई चलता नहीं । हम उसका इन्तजाम कर देंगे ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ranga please be brief.

SHRI N. G. RANGA: I am always brief. I brought to the notice of both the Ministers the fact that the second

class passengers are having a raw deal as bad as it was for the earlier third-class passengers. Is it not a fact that not only the lavatories are dirty-but the accommodation is more crowded and sweepings, dust and everything is there and nothing is being done in order to help the passengers, especially those travelling in the non-express trains?

SHRI SHEO NARAIN: Sir, I may assure the hon. Professor that I am trying to develop everything. We are giving new coaches on the 1st October. We are developing a brand new train.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Liquid petroleum gas connections

*699. DR. V. P. DUTT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state;

(a) the number of Indane gas distributing agencies in Delhi;

(b) the total number of applicants at present registered with them for new liquified petroleum gas connections;

(c) since when the first applicant has been on the waiting list;

(d) the number of new gas connections released every month on an average;

(e) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to clear the waiting list for new gas connections; and

(f) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to suspend fresh registration for some-time or to require applicants to de-