

under the new contract, the contractor was to pay charges to the railway for the use of a crane for packages weighing between 375 kgms. and one tonne for which he was not required to pay previously. For the purpose of comparing the quotations with the previous rates, the Negotiations Committee tried to estimate the additional cost which the contractor would have to incur on account of this changed condition. The estimate was done on the basis of actual charges recovered for use of the crane at Mirzapur where also the Railway was to supply crane free of charge for packages weighing one tonne and above. It is true that Tundla is provided with a fixed crane whereas Mirzapur is not, but this only affects crane haulage charges and not the charges for the actual utilization of the crane.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) An assessment of the amount likely to be payable by the new contractor for the use of crane was made as this was one of the factors affecting the quotation of rates by tenderers. Since, however, the main work done at Tundla is that of repacking, the principal factor to be considered was the rate quoted for this item of work which, in the case of the successful tenderer, was not only substantially lower than the corresponding rate in force at other stations but also not unreasonable considering the increase in labour wage rates. The question of loss to the Railway, therefore, does not arise. The Railway Administration concerned has, however, been instructed to ensure that assessment of charges for the use of cranes are made more carefully in future.

WAGONS FOR COAL MOVEMENT

1102. SHRI I. K. KALANIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of wagons supplied to various industries and other sectors in Gujarat State for movement of coal during the years 1970, 1971 and upto the 30th June, 1972, year-wise ;

(b) the number of wagons demanded for coal movement for the period from 1st July to 31st December, 1972 ; and

(c) whether the Railways will be in a position to supply the required number of wagons for coal movement to this State for the remaining period of the current year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) The total number of wagons supplied for movement of different types of coal to Gujarat State is given below :

		(Figures in 4 wheeler wagons)
1970	..	103648
1971	..	107436
1972	..	59909
(upto June)		

(b) The demands for wagons vary from month to month depending upon various factors and the recommendations of the State Government and the sponsoring authorities. The demands in July were approximately 15857 wagons.

(c) The demands placed appear to be on a high side. All efforts will however be made to meet the requirements to the maximum extent possible.

DEATH OF A PATIENT IN RAILWAY HOSPITAL, GUNTAKAL

1103. SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a representation dated 24th November, 1970 was received by him which contained allegations to the effect that Smt. Wanamala Khaparde, wife of Shri D. S. Khaparde, the then BRI, Southern Railway, Guntakal, who was treated as indoor patient at the Railway Hospital, Guntakal, died on 28th June, 1970 due to deliberate negligence and wrong diagnosis and treatment by the doctors in-charge ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the deceased was operated upon without obtaining the requisite consent of the husband ;

(c) whether any inquiry was instituted departmentally to ascertain the truth of these allegations ; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken against the persons found responsible for this grave negligence ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) A representation dated 9.11.70 and not 24.11.70