

(b) if so, the name of the union and the Central Trade Union Organisation to which it belongs; and

(c) what steps have been taken after receipt of the report?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The result of verification of membership figures of Rourkela Mazdoor Sabha (affiliate. I to Hind Mazdoor Sabha; and I pat Shramik Sangha (affiliated to National Front of Independent Trade Unions'), which participated in the verification, revealed that Rourkela Mazdoor Sabha had majority membership.

(c) It is the concern of the management to take action on the report, the information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House in due course.

COLLECTION OF PILGRIM TAX BY RAILWAYS

*430. SHRI DEVDATT KUMAR KIKABHAI P. TEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that G. B. S. R. Billimora Wagha Railway had collected money by way of Pilgrim Tax levied on the pilgrims and passengers visiting Unai (Gujarat).

(b) if so, the total amount collected so far; and

(c) the details of the uses to which this amount has been put;

(d) whether it is also a fact the then Maharaja of Baroda at the time of the merger of his State with the Indian Union made a condition that the money accumulated by way of Pilgrim Tax till merger and thereafter shall be spent for the welfare of Unai;

(e) if so, the details of such condition; and

(f) the steps taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information regarding the total amount collected by Gaekwar's Baroda State Railway is not available. However, the amount of tax collected by the B. B.

& C. I. Railway and Western Railway from January 1950 to 20th October, 1954, on which date its levy was discontinued, came to be Rs. 24,259-10-3.

(c) The tax was collected by the Railway Administration and after deducting collection charges, an amount of Rs. 23,046-10-3 was credited to the then Government of Bombay. How this amount was disposed of by the State Government, is not known to the Railway Ministry.

(d) to (f) The Ministry of Railways have no information regarding the condition stated to have been imposed by the Maharaja of Baroda nor its details. The Railway Administration were only the collecting agents for the tax which was passed on in toto (less collection charges) to the Baroda State and later to the Government of Bombay.

WORK-TO-RULE BY TRAIN EXAMINERS

*431. SHRI SALIL KUMAR GANGULY :

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY : DR. MATHEW KURIAN : SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the train-examiners of Eastern, Northern and Central regions resorted to work-to-rule agitation in August, 1970;

(b) if so, what were their demands;

(c) what steps have been taken by the authorities to meet their demands; and

(d) if no steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) They demanded—

(i) abolition of the lowest grade viz. Rs. 180-240 for Train Examiners;

(ii) Creation of adequate avenue of promotion; and

(iii) Change of existing designation.

(c) and (d) Their demands have been discussed with the two Railway Labour Federations viz. All India

Railwaymen's Federation and National Federation of Indian Railwaymen on 18-8-70 and 19-8-70 and further action is being taken in the light of the discussion held.

♦432. [Transferred to the 8th December 1970.]

♦433. [Transferred to the 1st December, 1970.]

TRACTOR FACTORIES IN STATES

*434- SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States which have been permitted to set up tractor factories during the Fourth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the manufacturing capacity of these units in each State;

(c) the names of the States which have asked for tractor units ; and

(d) what is the annual requirement of tractors in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) The State Government (State Agro-Industries Corporations) of Rajasthan and Punjab have been issued Letters of intent for setting up factories for the manufacture of agricultural tractors for a capacity of 5,000 Nos. and 12,000 Nos. per annum respectively.

(c) No other State Government or State Corporation has applied for the grant of industrial licence for establishing tractor manufacturing units. However, earlier the State Governments of Kerala, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Maharashtra had asked for locating the Central Public sector project for the manufacture of tractors in their State.

(d) The demand for Agricultural Tractors has been assessed by the Department of Agriculture as 90,000 Nos. per annum by 1973-74.

AVERTING OF ACCIDENT TO MADRAS-MANGALORE MAIL

*435. SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR-AN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a press report which appeared on page 4 of Mathrubhumi (Ernakulam Edition) dated the 4th November, 1970 to the effect that a possible accident to the Madras-Mangalore Mail was averted on the 2nd November, 1970 near Ferok, and

(b) if so, the details in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) : (a) and (b) On 2-11-1970 at about 11.00 hrs. while the keyman was making his routine inspection between Kadalund and Ferok stations of the Southern Railway he noticed a rail crack at km 653/5-6. He immediately took steps to protect the track according to rules, stopped train No. 1 Madras-Mangalore Mail and allowed it to proceed with due caution.

बटेश्वर तथा पीरपैती के बीच पुरानी रेलवे लाइन से पटरियों का उखाड़ा जाना

*436. श्री सूरज प्रसाद : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार के भागलपुर जिले में बटेश्वर तथा पीरपैती के बीच पुरानी रेलवे लाइन से पटरियां उखाड़ी गई हैं;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि वहां की जमीन हर साल आस-पास के धनी लोगों को आवंटित की जा रही है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार यह भूमि भूमिहीन लोगों को आवंटित करने का विचार रखती है ?

t [REMOVAL OF RAILS FROM OLD RAILWAY TRACK BETWEEN BATESHWAR AND PIRPAINTI

♦436. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that rails from an old railway track between Bateshwar