

asleep in the compartments and the passengers find great difficulty in finding them out and getting accommodation? May I know, Sir, what steps the Government are taking for removing this inconvenience to the passengers?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Actually, Sir, I do not think we are in a position to increase the number of Conductor Guards on each Mail or Express train or other trains also because the number does not always improve the quality of service. What we intend to do is to improve the quality of service and see that all the people in charge, who are there available on railway stations or in trains, T. C. or Attendants or Conductor Guards etc. should all see that the passengers are not put to any difficulty.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: The hon. Minister has just mentioned about the corridor bogie. May I know, Sir, whether he is aware that for the last two years the Members of Parliament have been complaining that Attendants are not provided in these bogies and due to that serious incidents have taken place?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: The information that I have here, Sir, indicates that Attendants are provided in all the corridor type of I class coaches, and if there is any place where the hon. Member does not find an Attendant, I shall see to it that that is done.

श्री गिरिराज किशोर कपूर : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी कृपा करके बतलायेंगे कि बिलासपुर से जो गाड़ी इन्दौर के लिये जाती है और जब दिन में बिलासपुर से जबलपुर तक आती है तब तो उसमें कन्डक्टर गाई रहता है और जब रात को जबलपुर से भोपाल तक जाती है तो उसमें कन्डक्टर गाई नहीं रहता है, इसका क्या कारण है ?

श्री राम सुभग सिंह : हम इस बात का पता लगायेंगे कि ऐसी बात क्यों होती है क्योंकि यह बात सवाल में साफ रूप से नहीं पूछी गई है. इसलिये हम इस बात का पता लगायेंगे । I want notice.

ZINC SMELTER PLANT

*239. **SHRI Y. A. REDDY:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to establish a zinc smelter plant with polish assistance; and

(b) if so, where it is proposed to locate the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of location of a zinc smelter plant was remitted for detailed study to an expert committee. The report of the committee is under examination. A final decision in the matter will be taken by Government shortly.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know, Sir, if the Government is aware of the fact that zinc is a much-coveted commodity in the black market, and premium in the black market on zinc is increasing almost every year? If the Government is aware of this sordid fact, will it take proper steps to arrive at a decision and set up a plant so that more zinc is available in the country?

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: I do not know about black marketing but we are importing, no doubt, about 80,000 tons of zinc. Naturally, the supply being a little short, there may be some black-marketing. The Government is attempting to set up plants to process imported zinc concentrates. We do not have much of zinc mining in this country.

SHRI G. M. MIR: I would like to know from the Minister what assistance we are going to have from Poland and how much amount is going to be invested by India to establish this plant.

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: Of course, it is in the public sector. The Polish Government will give assistance and the necessary equipment.

SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: Have the Government examined the possibility of the availability of zinc in the whole country or whether a few areas only have been excavated up to this time?

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: Yes, there is a possibility at Jawar in Rajasthan but the quantity that can be produced will be very limited and we are expecting to produce about 40,000 tons there but our demand will grow. Perhaps we will need 2 lakh tons. Therefore we will have to import zinc concentrates and then process it.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: When is the proposed plant likely to go into production?

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: The Polish Technicians are coming here by the end of this month. They will go round and select the location. After that, naturally, it will take three to four years for the import of machinery and plant and for production to commence.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH: What is the demand in the country now and what is the prospective demand by the end of the Fourth Plan?

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: Just now it is about 80,000 tons and by the end of the Fourth Plan it is expected to go up to 2 lakh tons or round about that.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: May I know whether there is any zinc smelter-plant under construction by the private sector?

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: That is what I said. In Rajasthan at Jawar there is an attempt to put up a smelter.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: May I know if there is any machinery now to find out whether the quota allotted is properly utilized and the demand is not fictitious in the country?

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: After all, it is an estimate and we cannot be very correct about estimates.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: About the present quota.

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: It is about 85,000 tons—that is the import figure—because we are not producing in the country and that cannot be fictitious at all.

*240. [The questioner (Shri M. C. Shah) was absent. For answer, vide col. 1771—73 infra.]

SENIORITY OF CLAIMS TRACERS

*241. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 191 in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th April, 1964 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken on the representations received from the Claims Tracers of the Northern Railway after 2nd March, 1964;

(b) if so, whether any fresh seniority list has since been issued; and

(c) whether the matter has finally been closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.