

Port authorities and the Unions. A few cases were also settled. However, a very large number of items remained which the Unions wanted to be referred to arbitration or adjudication. Government examined each of these items and wrote to the All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation on the 15th April, 1963 informing them that the items did not appear to justify reference to adjudication or arbitration. However, during the course of an interview at Bombay, the Minister of Shipping asked the President and some other representatives of the constituent units of the Federation, to send their comments on the Government's reply and if they so desired they could further discuss the pending matters at a meeting to be arranged later. On the 15th June, 1963, while the Federation's reply was being awaited, one of its constituent Unions, the B.P.T. General Workers' Union, wrote to Government and to the Bombay Port Trust that it had decided to call a strike of the Bombay Port Trust Fire Brigade staff and the flotilla staff if the alleged anomalies in regard to pay scales were not immediately referred to adjudication. A few cases of delays in implementation of assurances and orders of a local nature were also alleged by the Union.

(c) The Union was immediately apprised of the fact that the Federation's reply to the letter of the 15th April, 1963 was still awaited and that Government would take immediate action on receipt of their reply. The Federation was also informed similarly and asked to advise the Union not to resort to a strike which was entirely unjustified. The Port Trust Fire Brigade staff however went on strike from the 23rd June and the flotilla crew went on strike from the 25th June. The strike was called off as a result of the discussions held by the Minister of Shipping with the representatives of the All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation on the 27th June, 1963.]

ABOLITION OF RELIEVING STATION MASTERS ON THE RAILWAYS

128. SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the category of relieving station masters has been abolished on all railways except the Southern Railway;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) when a decision is likely to be taken in respect of the Southern Railway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

TICKETLESS TRAVEL ON THE WESTERN RAILWAY

129. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ticketless travellers apprehended and the amount realised from them on the Western Railway during the quarter ending March 31, 1963; and

(b) the number of cases of un-booked luggage detected during the same period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) 2,41,952 and Rs. 5,63,181 respectively.

(b) 47,351.

COMPLAINTS BY FOREIGN TOURISTS

130. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of foreign tourists have complained to the Department of Tourism in June 1963 that they have been harassed by touts, taxi-drivers

and guides and pestered by them in hotel-lobbies, reception and dining halls and even in the privacy of their own rooms; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to put a stop to the complained state of affairs so that the foreign tourists may have no occasion for such complaints in future?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) No such complaints have been received during June 1963. However, complaints of this nature are occasionally received in the Department of Tourism from foreign tourists. In hotels there are various services such as taxi service; shops selling souvenirs and other goods etc. These are not necessarily owned by the hotels but are allowed to operate within the premises on certain terms. The taxi operators, shopkeepers or their agents occasionally pester the tourists in various ways. Any such complaints received by the Department of Tourism are taken up with the hotels concerned. The Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India has also been asked to impress upon their member hotels the need for vigilance in these matters and the Federation has sent a circular letter to all its members emphasising the need to eradicate such complaints.

OVERTIME WORK PERFORMED BY SECTION CONTROLLERS ON SOUTHERN RAILWAY

131. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of overtime work performed by the Section Controllers in the Vijayawada Division of the Southern Railway during the year 1962-63; and

(b) whether overtime allowance has been paid to all the Controllers, and if not, what is the delay due to?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) 3,937 hours.

(b) Overtime allowance to the Controllers has not yet been paid due to non-receipt of claims duly verified. Special steps are, however, being taken to finalise the payments early.

DERAILMENT OF EXPRESS TRAIN NEAR BAGRI NAGAR

132. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a derailment of the Delhi-Ahmedabad Express train near Bagri Nagar on the Western Railway on July 26, 1963;

(b) if so, what are the details of the accident; and

(c) what press notes were issued by the Western Railway on this subject?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes.

(b) On 26-7-63 at 01.18 hours while No. 3 Up Delhi-Express was passing through the loop line at Bagri Nagar station, its engine derailed. A brakevan next to the engine, a third class bogie second from engine and on Inspection Carriage third from the engine also derailed. There was no injury to any person.

(c) No press note was issued.

RECEIPTS FROM SALE OF TICKETS AT KUARMUNDA RAILWAY STATION

133. SHRI DHANANJOY MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the daily average receipt on account of sale of tickets at the Kuarmunda Railway Station since it was shifted to the new site and how does it compare with the daily average receipt prior to its shifting to the new site; and