

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Detention of the railway wagons.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: What is the number of wagon days lost on account of this delay?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You must address the Railway Ministry for it.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: He had been the Railway Minister. He can calculate it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: According to the figures given, it seems that Rs. 1 crore have been given as demurrage. It is a big amount that we have to pay. Due to what reason did this demurrage become due to the Railways?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: It is a big figure because we are dealing with a large number of wagons.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: In view of the fact that it is a public undertaking and this amount will be debited to a public undertaking which is called the Hindustan Steel, and in view of the fact that such heavy demurrage had to be paid, whether the Government instituted any enquiry into the circumstances in which such a thing could take place and, if so, what is the report?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: No enquiry was necessary. There was nothing abnormal. There was accumulation of wagons on account of the difficulties in the handling arrangements.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: The Minister just now said that there were difficulties in clearing the wagons. If I may remind the House, he was complaining some time ago about the shortage of coal due to lack of wagons. May I know why the Steel Plants are indulging in such delay in handling these materials?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: The position is greatly improving and constant attention is being paid to improve it but the Steel Plants, whether in the

public or private sector, have to handle several goods trains a day, for the incoming and outgoing materials. In the construction stage, they have to handle lakhs of tons of materials in the initial stages. Arrangements for handling and the yard capacity are not adequate to handle all that and, therefore, these troubles do arise.

FINANCE MINISTER'S VISIT TO GUJARAT AND SAURASHTRA

*234. **SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the purpose of his visit to Gujarat and Saurashtra early in the month of November last, what was the mode of travel and whether a special plane was utilized for the journey; and

(b) whether the visit was official or private?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) The purpose of the Finance Minister's visit to Gujarat and Saurashtra early in the month of November last was to fulfil official engagements for which he had received invitations from the institutions concerned. The air journeys performed by him were in a private plane.

(b) Although these visits were official, the Finance Minister has not claimed any Travelling Allowance or Daily Allowance in respect of this tour in Gujarat and Saurashtra, etc.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: The Minister may kindly repeat the answer regarding what type of plane it was. I could not catch the answer.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: It was a plane belonging to a friend of mine.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: May I know whether it is not a fact that the Finance Minister is not charging any D.A. though he is entitled to it?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: That is the answer given.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The Minister has said that he has such friends. May I know, in that case, the name of the friend who provided that plane and whether it is done usually?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not relevant.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How to identify the plane?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He said that it was a private plane.

PRODUCTION OF OIL AT ANKLESHWAR

*235. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the experts of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission have revised downwards the expected annual production of oil at Ankleshwar; and

(b) if so, what is the cause of reduction of the estimates?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND OIL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The finding of a gas cap in the central part of the structure.

SHRI S. C. DEB: What remedial steps are being taken?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: It is an act of nature. When you drill an oil field, you find somewhere gas. Then you have to subtract the amount of gas that you find from the total oil reserves estimated in the first round. There is no remedial measure necessary. If you find gas, you find gas.

SHRI S. C. DEB: What would be the exact downward trend in the production?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: This is all, as I said, usual in the estimation of an oil field reserve. As you find out an oil field, you indicate the first

reserve and as you go on drilling the wells, if you get gas, then you have to subtract the gas from the total quantity of oil. If you find again some more oil, then you have to go on adjusting the estimates till you start producing oil from the oil field.

AWARDS FOR CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

*236. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many of the entries for the awards for children's literature this year did not come up to the prescribed standard; and

(b) if so, what was the criterion of judgment for giving prizes for this competition this time?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The entries for the competition were evaluated keeping in view the following aspects:

- (i) Contents;
- (ii) Presentation;
- (iii) Language;
- (iv) Originality;
- (v) Illustrations;
- (vi) Production; and
- (vii) Age-group.

COMPENSATORY AND HOUSE RENT ALLOWANCES TO COLLEGE STAFF

*237. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has issued a circular to the constituent colleges of the Delhi University asking them to give the