

is responsible for these accidents, and when you have specifically asked him to reply to the question as to what steps they are going to take, it has been given out as proper supervision and deterrent punishment. It is not a fact that the Railway Accidents Enquiry Committee did suggest that also the human fatigue is responsible for this thing, so that the working hours and other things must be properly examined? Secondly, may I know whether railway automatic signalling is to be installed to avoid this human element?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: This question was thoroughly gone into by Justice Rajadhyaksha and recommendations were made in great detail regarding the duty hours etc. The Railways are observing the recommendations of the Rajadhyaksha Committee in this matter.

SHRI D. A. MIRZA: May I know how many lives were lost in the accidents during this year?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: In these 18 accidents, 93 persons were killed.

SHRI V. VENKATARAMANA: Does the hon. Minister propose to have a compulsory insurance scheme for all the passengers?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Compulsory insurance scheme on account of these accidents, have you thought of it, he asks?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: I will look into that.

NATIONALISATION OF TRADE IN FOOD-GRAINS

*421. **SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the reasons which led to Government's decisions to nationalize the trade in foodgrains?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): The decision to nationalize

trade in foodgrains was taken mainly because it was felt that this was the only sure way of stabilising prices of foodgrains.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know what are the States which have so far implemented this programme?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I explained the position two or three days back when we had a debate on the non-official resolution of Dr. Seeta Parmanand. A Working Committee has been constituted to work out the details of the scheme. We are awaiting a report from them, and then a final decision will be taken.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: In view of the fact that State trading in foodgrains involves certain element of monopolistic tendency, may I know what safeguards the Government has adopted to protect the small marginal agricultural growers against unreasonable prices?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: State trading implies guarantee of a reasonable price to the grower also, so that the small grower will be protected.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: May I know the approximate amount of investment involved in this state trading in foodgrains?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: It is too early to forecast the amount that would be necessary for our procurement operations. As I have already said, the report is being awaited after which Government will finalise matters.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Is the Minister aware that hartals are being organised by grain dealers in various grain 'mandis', and if so, what steps are being taken to explain to the public the necessity of these steps in the public interest?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: When vested interests are affected, certainly there

will be some such demonstrations. But Government will not be guided by these hartals but will be guided by public interest

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: The question is different and the answer is quite different. What I want to know is whether steps regarding publicity about the necessity of such a step in the public interest are being taken by the Ministry or not. That hartals could be organised, that people might not support the hartals, and all that is altogether different.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The National Development Council's decision has been publicised quite widely, and it has also been given out that the scheme of the Government is to have larger and larger procurement operations so that the Government may have as much control of the marketable surplus as possible. I think the public are being educated in this matter.

SHRI A. P. JAIN: Sir, may I say a few words? Government is taking every possible step to explain the correct implications of State trading. I would like to enlist the support of the hon. Members in doing the same.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND. May I know what steps are being taken? The Minister said that steps are being taken. The House would like to know what steps are actually being taken.

SHRI A. P. JAIN: The Prime Minister spoke the other day at Jhajjar and got a big applause and he explained the implications.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Step is not to be judged by the applause. May I know whether the Central Government has sent any direction, complete proposals, to the State Governments for implementation? If so, what are these proposals and to what extent the States have begun to implement them?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: When the proposals have been worked out, then alone they can be sent to the States for implementation. My colleague has just informed the House that those proposals are being worked out.

श्री पा० ना० राज रोज क्या यह सच है कि बम्बई के अनाज-मंत्री श्री काजी ने इस बारे में सरकार को कोई प्रोजेक्ट्स पेश किये हैं ? एक और दूसरा सवाल है । क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि कोई ऐसे भी राज्य हैं, जिन्होंने अनाज-व्यापार के राष्ट्रीयकरण का विरोध किया है ?

श्री ए० पी० जैन . बम्बई के खाद्य-मंत्री श्री काजी जी ने तो ज़रूर भेजा है । दूसरा सवाल मेरी समझ में नहीं आया ।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if the Government is aware that at least one State Government, the Government of West Bengal, has begun to go its own way with the result that its policy is being opposed by large sections of the people as being contrary to the decisions of the National Development Council?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: I am not aware of any such thing.

*422 [The questioner (Shri M. Vahulla) was absent For answer, vide cols 2430-31 infra.]

*423. [The questioner (Dr. R. P. Dube) was absent For answer, vide cols 2431-32 infra.]

ब्रिटिश फर्गों द्वारा लन्दन से दिल्ली तक चालू की गई मोटर कोच सर्विस

*४१४ **श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान** क्या पविहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ ब्रिटिश फर्मों ने लन्दन से दिल्ली तक थल मार्ग से मोटर कोच सर्विस प्रारम्भ कर दी है ;

(ख) इस सर्विस की विशेषतायें क्या हैं और किराया क्या है ,