

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The total quantity of furniture purchased in the Bihar Circle for the period from 1952 to 1956 and the price thereof is as below:—

Year	Total quantity of steel and wooden furniture	Total price Rs.
1952-53	1038	33,480
1953-54	1390	28,466
1954-55	1164	28,061
1955-56	1590	39,436

(b) The amount sanctioned for "Contingencies" in respect of Bihar Circle are furnished below:—

	Rs.
1952-53 . . .	13,96,533
1953-54 . . .	13,16,788
1954-55 . . .	14,43,988
1955-56 . . .	15,86,781

Out of these allotments, the amounts "Contingencies" in respect of Bihar furniture were:

	Rs.
1952-53 . . .	50,029
1953-54 . . .	43,994
1954-55 . . .	45,650
1955-56 . . .	48,813

श्री किशोरी राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि फर्नीचर को खरीदने के लिये बजट में कोई निर्धारित रकम नहीं थी जो कि कांतिनजेंमी से खरीदा गया ?

श्री राज बहादुर : कांतिनजेंमी में कई खर्च आते हैं और उसके अतिरिक्त फर्नीचर के लिये भी प्राविजन होता है जिसमें परचेज एंड रिपेयर्स आफ फर्नीचर के वास्ते राशि निर्धारित की जाती है ।

श्री किशोरी राम : यह जो स्टेटमेंट सभा पटल पर रखा गया है इसमें से कितने फर्नीचर स्टील के खरीदे गये और कितने लकड़ी के खरीदे गये ?

श्री राज बहादुर : यह कहना तो कठिन होगा कि कितने लकड़ी के थे और कितने स्टील के थे ।

श्री किशोरी राम : ये फर्नीचर जो खरीदे गये वे किन किन जगहों के लिये खरीदे गये ?

श्री राज बहादुर : यह बहुत लम्बी लिस्ट है । पटना डिवीजन, रांची, भागलपुर, चम्पारन डिवीजन, दरभंगा, गया डिवीजन, हजारीबाग डिवीजन, मानभूम, सारन डिवीजन, मुजफ्फरपुर डिवीजन, आदि आदि के लिये खरीदे गये ।

श्री किशोरी राम : क्या कोई ऐसा भी लिमिटेशन है कि इतने साल के अन्दर में इतनी इतनी जगह पर खरीदा जायगा या हर साल यह खरीदा जाता है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : बहुधा यह आवश्यकतानुसार खरीदा जाता है । किन्तु हमारी चेष्टा यह है कि इन डाकखानों में शीघ्रातिशीघ्र नये फर्नीचर पहुंचाये ताकि वे सुन्दर लगें ।

*193 and *194. [For answers, vide cols. 1535—38 infra.]

JAPANESE SHIPS FOR INDIA UNDER 25 CRORE YEN CREDIT

*195. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Japanese ships which Government propose to acquire under the 25 crore Yen Credit; and

(b) by when these ships are likely to reach India?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND
COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ**

BAHADUR): (a) and (b). Provision exists in the Yen credit agreement recently concluded with the Government of Japan for financing the construction of Vessels in Japanese yards. Details regarding the number and the price of ships to be acquired, the dates of delivery, etc. are still under negotiations and it is not, therefore, possible to give any indication at this stage as to how many ships would be acquired and from whom and when they are likely to be delivered.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the types of ships which are needed from the Japanese shipyards?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I would not be able to mention the name of the maker or the type, but we require cargo ships as well as passenger ships. We require tankers also.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India is purchasing ships from France and, if so, how the French ships compare with these Japanese ships?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I do not think any negotiations have been initiated with any French manufacturing concern with regard to the purchase of ships.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, if in addition to ships some port equipments are also to be purchased from Japan?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Sir, the position at the moment is that the delegation that went to Japan for negotiations in regard to Yen credit, so far as our requirements were concerned it concentrated its attention with regard to the purchase of ships and not on port equipment.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know, Sir, if the ships are being ordered

from Japan only because they are giving them on yen credit?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: That is one of the reasons. We can make deferred payments for the purchase of ships and utilise the facilities that might be afforded to us by the Yen credit.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: In that case I would like to know whether the Government has ensured that the quality of these Japanese ships will compare favourably with other ships?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I think the question hardly arises, because the ships must be seaworthy, stable and according to the certifications of the highest order, I mean according to Lloyd's Certification.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: I put that question because the period they are likely to last is also a factor that has got to be taken into consideration. If they last longer, then in that case the depreciation will be spread over a longer period.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I think they will have the normal span of life, which is about 20 to 30 years.

SHRI T. V. KAMALASWAMY: May I know, Sir, whether Government propose to buy only ocean-going vessels or whether they are going to buy any steamers suitable for coastal traffic also?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Sir, we propose to buy ships which will be good enough for both the purposes. I think we require tankers, we require cargo vessels and we require passenger vessels, and so on.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: I merely want to add this that Japan has got very fine shipyards and they build very fine and good stable ships, and as the Minister said, we will certainly bear in mind every aspect of the problem. The greatest advantage that we find at the present moment in purchasing ships from Japan is in the

time of their delivery, I mean, they are prepared to construct them in one year and supply them to us.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I know, Sir, if all these ships to be acquired from Japan will be in the public sector?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I do not think it has been decided yet, but we hope they will be in the public sector as well as in the private sector.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, the tonnage of the ships that are expected from Japan?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I think it will be premature for me to say that.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether the Yen credit facility is preconditioned by the purchase of Japanese ships?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Entire Yen credit? That is not so.

LAUNCHING OF SATYAGRAHA BY PUBLIC AT JODHPUR AGAINST THE NORTHERN RAILWAY

*196. **SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a satyagraha was launched by the public at Jodhpur against the Northern Railway;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for launching the satyagraha; and

(c) what steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, but on the Western Railway and not on the Northern Railway as stated.

(b) Demand for Introduction of a Janata train between Delhi and Ahmedabad or at least the extension of the

slip coaches running between Ahmedabad and Abu Road to and from Ajmer.

(c) The feasibility of extending the slip coaches running between Ahmedabad and Abu Road to and from Ajmer is under examination.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, if the satyagraha that is going on is offered by pulling the alarm chains and stopping the trains or has some other method been started?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, they try to interfere with the running of the trains. On one occasion one train was detained for twenty-three minutes and on another occasion it was detained for about fifteen minutes just by pulling the alarm chains and making a nuisance of themselves.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether the offenders were prosecuted and if so, how many have been convicted?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Three persons were arrested by the police, but I do not know whether or not they have been convicted.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know at how many stations on this line the satyagraha is going on? Or was it at a particular railway station?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I am afraid I cannot call it 'satyagraha'.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But the questioner used it.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: It was done only at one station, Erinpura.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या माननीय मिनिस्टर महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस किस्म को जो कार्यवाही की गई उसे सत्याग्रह का नाम क्यों दिया जाता है उस "दुराग्रह" क्यों नहीं कहा जाता है ? क्या