

throw some light on these Rules because I do not have the Rules with me at present?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, some of these Rules relate mainly to people who are prosecuted for indebtedness.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR. For indebtedness?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Yes.

INSUFFICIENCY OF GOVERNMENT-OWNED TRUCKS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

*174. SHRI C. L. VARMA: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of trucks owned by Government in Himachal Pradesh is insufficient to cope with the amount of business during the potato season in Mahasu; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that privately owned trucks are engaged for the purpose; and if so, on what terms?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The owners of the private trucks are paid 75 per cent. of the gross earnings and 25 per cent is kept by Government to cover expenses incurred in procuring business etc.

SHRI C. L. VARMA: May I know why permits are refused to co-operative societies? Certainly they have no trucks, but the permits are refused.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: There is a State Transport Authority there and it is their job either to issue or refuse permits. The Ministry of Transport has nothing to do with it.

SHRI C. L. VARMA: Since this is a Union Territory, I think the Ministry of Transport should know why permits are refused.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, a Committee was appointed and one of its recommendations is that any person who can guarantee a minimum of 1,500 maunds of goods may be given a permit as a private carrier. Of course, that recommendation has not yet been fully accepted. But we hope it will be accepted.

SHRI C. L. VARMA: May I know, Sir, if the hon. Minister is aware that there are co-operative societies which are handling more than three or four lakh maunds of potatoes, but they are not given permits for trucks?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I am very glad to know that the co-operative societies are doing so well in Himachal Pradesh, and I hope they will receive due encouragement now.

HIMACHAL PRADESH TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*175. SHRI C. L. VARMA: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Himachal Pradesh had appointed a Transport Advisory Committee in March 1954; if so, who were its members and what were the recommendations of the said Committee; and

(b) whether any action has been taken by Government on the recommendations of the Committee; if so, what?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes Sir. Copies of the Committee's report have been placed in the Library of the House.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee are under the consideration of the Himachal Pradesh Administration.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF CONFERENCE OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS

*173. SHRI H. C. DASAPPA (ON behalf of SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY):