

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, 2nd September 1954

The House met at a quarter past eight of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PROCUREMENT OF LOCOMOTIVES AND WAGONS

*152. SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting of the Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee for the Western Railway was held in Bombay on the 29th May, 1954, regarding procurement of locomotives and wagons; and

(b) if so, what recommendations were made by that Committee at that meeting?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : (a) One of the subjects considered at the meeting was "Receipt of New Locomotives and Wagons".

(b) A copy of the minutes of the meeting is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 63.]

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: May I know, Sir, whether any orders have been placed with any foreign firms for getting these new locomotives as has been recommended by this Committee?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We have placed orders abroad for getting these new locomotives.

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: May I know with which firm this order has been placed?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the name of the firm?
49 RSD.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We have placed orders in Japan and Germany.

ALLOTMENT OF TANK WAGONS TO THE CENTRAL RAILWAY

*153. SHRI NARAYANDAS DAGA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new tank-wagons put into commission on the Central Railway during the year 1952-53 and the number allotted to each division of the Railway; and

(b) the number of tank-wagons proposed to be put into commission on the Central Railway during the year 1954 and the number to be allotted to each division?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Vegetable Oil Tank Wagons—Nil.

Petroleum Oil Tank Wagons B. G. —195.

Allotment of such tank-wagons is not made division-wise. All Broad Gauge Petroleum Oil Tank Wagons of the Central Railway are based at Wadala (Bombay).

(b) No additional Vegetable Oil Tank Wagons are expected to be delivered during the rest of this year.

Further deliveries of Petroleum Oil Tank Wagons that may be received during this year will be distributed to the different bases in consultation with the Oil Industry Supply Committee, Bombay, which regulates movement of these products.

SHRI NARAYANDAS DAGA: Is the hon. Minister aware that 83 per cent, of the mineral oil is moved by mineral oil tank-wagons while only 47 per cent, of vegetable oil is moved by vegetable oil tank-wagons?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: At present we have a shortage of vegetable oil

tank-wagons, but we have placed orders for 1000 oil tank-wagons. When they are received, the shortage will be removed.

SHRI NARAYANDAS DAGA: When there is already a shortage of vegetable oil tank-wagons, may I know why the mineral oil tank-wagon pool is getting more wagons and not the vegetable oil tank-wagon pool?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: When the new wagons are received, the present mineral oil tank-wagons will be converted into vegetable oil tank-wagons.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Can mineral oil tank-wagons also be used as vegetable oil tank-wagons?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what he says.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: What I said was that when we receive the new petroleum oil tank-wagons, we will convert the existing petrol wagons into vegetable oil tank-wagons. We will convert about 500.

SHRI NARAYANDAS DAGA: What will be the quantity?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We are getting 1000 wagons, and we will convert 500 existing petrol tank-wagons into vegetable oil tank-wagons.

SHRI NARAYANDAS DAGA: In which year will these new wagons come?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: By the end of 1955.

LAY-OFF COMPENSATION AND RETRENCHMENT

*154. SHRI J. V. K. VALLABHARAO: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of compensation paid to the workers for lay-off since the promulgation of the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1953; and

(b) the total number of workers so far retrenched under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act, 1953?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) The information is not available and its collection would involve time and labour quite incommensurate with the results.

(b) Complete information is not available. A statement giving the number of workers in respect of whom notices of retrenchment were received by certain State Governments is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 64.] Similar information from a few State Governments is awaited. Statistics relating to retrenchment in Central sphere undertakings is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

SHRI J. V. K. VALLABHARAO: May I know whether any compensation has been given to the workers who were retrenched in connection with the closure of manganese mines?

SHRI ABID ALI: I did not follow the first part of the question.

SHRI J. V. K. VALLABHARAO: May I know whether any representation has been received by the Government regarding the retrenchment of workers in manganese mines either in Madhya Pradesh or Madras?

SHRI ABID ALI: We have received some representations.

SHRI J. V. K. VALLABHARAO: What action has the Government taken on these representations?

SHRI ABID ALI: Several representations have been received concerning various questions, that workers should not be retrenched, that Government should take some action with regard to the closure, etc., and following that we have withdrawn the export duty on manganese ore.