

has been shown in the Railway Budget or in the General Budget?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: This is a free gift from Canada but we have agreed to pay the lowest international market rate to the General Revenues and that comes to £8,075 per boiler.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Was any of these used in the last engine, the 100th that was made here?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I do not have that information.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: It is a very good gesture on the part of Canada. Are you reciprocating this gesture?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I think the hon. Member knows the basis of the Colombo Plan according to which the countries of the Colombo Plan help each other.

SHRI KANHAIYALAL D. VAIDYA: Will these boilers be used in metre gauge engines or broad gauge engines?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: According as they are metre gauge or broad gauge.

*594. [For answer, vide col. 3875 infra.]

*595. [Answered on the 28th September 1954.]

INFERIOR QUALITY OF PAPER USED IN REGISTERED INSURED ENVELOPES

*596. SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints about thefts of contents of insured envelopes on account of the inferior quality of paper recently brought into use for making such envelopes; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) The reply is in the negative.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: I would not ask any supplementary except to offer the hon. Minister a sample of the envelope which was sent to me by a friend of mine who was a victim of such theft of its contents so that he could satisfy himself whether the quality is satisfactory or not.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I shall be grateful for that, Sir. We have not changed even a jot in the specification that had been laid down for the quality of paper for the use of such envelopes. It may be a sort of fabricated thing and I might be able to find out the fabricator.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please pass it on to him, Mr. Ghose.

(The envelope was passed on to Shri Raj Bahadur)

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR THE STAFF OF OVERSEAS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

*597. SHRI A. S. RAJU: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of quarters placed at the disposal of the Director, Overseas Communications Service, for allotment to the staff working in his office; and

(b) what are the principles followed in the allotment of these quarters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) There are 21 quarters placed at the disposal of the Director, Overseas Communications Service at Delhi.

(b) The quarters are allotted to certain staff on key duties. Where an officer voluntarily refuses the allotment, the allotment is made to the next person on the basis of priority of posting in Delhi.

SHRI A. S. RAJU: Is it a fact that some family quarters were allotted to unmarried officers in preference to married officers ignoring the seniority of service?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Sir, I am not aware of any such thing. If a complaint is made to me, I will look into it.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know, Sir, if the provision of quarters is compulsory?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: That depends upon the availability of quarters with us.

SHRI A. S. RAJU: Of these quarters how many were earmarked for the operating staff?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I will just now give the categories of staff and the number of residences:

Category of staff	No. of Strength residen- ces
Director ... I I	
Engineer-in-charge ..II	
Traffic Manager ..11	
Traffic Supervisor ..11	
Assistant Supervisors (Traffic) 5 4	
Senior Foreman ..11	
Junior Foreman ..11	
Assistant Engineer 3 3	
Technical Assistants 14 8	

AMENITIES FOR THIRD CLASS PASSENGERS

•598. SHRI D. NARAYAN: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any recommendations from the delegation which recently visited the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and other countries to study the arrangements on the Railways of those countries with a view to providing more amenities to third class passengers on the Indian Railways; and

(b) if so, what are those recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O.V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes.

(b) The recommendations in the interim report are as follows: —

(i) The present practice of providing separate exits and entrances for upper and third class passengers at stations should be discontinued.

(ii) The dining cars which are at present available to the upper and inter class passengers only, should be made available to third class passengers also.

(iii) The enquiry offices at large stations should be re-organised with two sets of offices, one for answering telephonic enquiries and the other for verbal enquiries at the counter.

(iv) Sleeping cars should be provided for long distance third class passengers on the Janata Expresses and a suitable additional charge levied for the accommodation.

(v) The feasibility of having telescopic scales for passenger fares, including those for the third class should be examined so that the burden on long distance passengers is reduced.

(vi) One Ticket Collector should be provided for two coaches on each of the important long distance mail and express trains for checking tickets and looking after the comforts of passengers.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: May I know if the Government has got under consideration the question of reducing the rates for long distance travellers?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Yes, Sir. I read that. Telescopic scales for passenger fares may be introduced. That is one of the recommendations.