

practically no difficulty in the supply of wagons for the transport of *Bidis* or moving this commodity in 'Smalls' to Ceylon. All demands for movement of this traffic by rail to Ceylon via Dhanushkodi are being met currently.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA (*in Malayalam*): "After Tuticorin the transport is by railway. I want to know whether the facilities are adequate."

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Yes, they are quite adequate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A matter of opinion.

TRANSPORT OF DRIED FISH

*99. SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations or protests have been received by Government from traders pointing out the lack of facilities at the Tirur Railway Station on the Southern Railway with regard to the sending of consignments of dried fish from that station; and

(b) how many maunds of dried fish are allowed to be booked from Tirur Railway Station daily?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes, some representations were received by the Southern Railway from traders asking for an increase in the quota for movement by rail of dried fish as 'smalls' from Tirur Railway Station.

(b) The quota for dried fish in 'smalls' is 40 maunds a day from Tirur, in addition to 40 maunds a day from Ponnani Out Agency, served by Tirur, making a total of 80 maunds a day from this area. Previously, the quota from Tirur was only 20 maunds a day, which was increased to 40 maunds from 12th November 1952.

SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA (*in Malayalam*): "Is it possible to raise the quota to 60 maunds?"

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: No, because we have to take the demands at other stations into account.

SHRI B. RATH: In view of the fact that dried fish and dried fish "fry" are very palatable, will export facilities be given to traders to export dried fish to other places?

(No reply.)

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES WHO OPTED FOR PAKISTAN AND RETURNED TO INDIA

*100. KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Railway servants who had opted provisionally for Pakistan, and then came back to India within the time limit, have not yet been employed; and

(b) if there are such persons, what are the reasons for not taking them back to their posts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Complete information regarding number of railway employees who provisionally opted for Pakistan and later changed their option to India Final within the time limit but not taken back to duty is not available, as all such employees have not reported to Railway Administrations.

(b) In accordance with the orders on the subject such staff on changing their option to India Final and Reporting to their parent Railway are taken back to duty unless they have been found unsuitable for entertainment in Government service.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: I wish to know about those who returned and applied to the Railway for re-employment. What about them?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Most of them have been taken back.