

SHRI H. D. RAJAH : The conversion of the Provident Fund into Insurance which would benefit the twenty thousand labourers is what I want the hon. Minister to consider.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Next question

PRODUCTION OF LOCOMOTIVES

*20. SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) how many factories are there in India which manufacture—

(i) locomotives, and

(ii) railway coaches ;

(b) (i) how many of such factories are under construction, and

(ii) how many factories are proposed to be constructed in the near future ;

(c) (i) what is the present output from the existing factories ; and

(ii) what is the estimated output from the factories mentioned in parts (b) (i) and (ii) ; and

(d) (i) what is the present outlay of capital ; and

(ii) what is the estimated cost of the factories referred to in parts (b) (i) and (ii) ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : (a) (i) Two. Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, and Tata Locomotive & Engineering Co.

(ii) There are no factories in India specially built and equipped for construction of railway coaches. Coach bodies are built in a branch factory of Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., and in Railway workshops. Some steel bodies are also being built by Wagon Manufacturers in Calcutta.

(b) (i) One. The Railway Integral Coach Factory, Perambur, Madras.

(ii) No other new factories are being considered at present.

(c) (i) During 1952 the following numbers have been delivered up to 30th September 1952 :—

Locomotives

Chittaranjan Locomotive Works 20

Tata Locomotive & Engineering Works 22

Railway Coach Bodies

Railway workshops 201

Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. 93

Wagon Manufacturing Firms, Calcutta (unfurnished bodies) 50

(ii) The estimated output from the Integral Coach Factory, Perambur, will be 350 unfurnished coaches a year when production is fully established.

(d) (i) and (ii). Chittaranjan Locomotive Works 13,402 crores.

Tata Locomotive & Engineering Works 4.50 crores.

Integral Coach Factory

This is estimated to cost about Rs. 5 crores.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Are the old coaches reconditioned in these factories.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : Yes.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : What is the percentage of the profit they have got on the outlay ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I think it is too early to say about the profits. In Chittaranjan they have started manufacturing locomotives.

SHRI A. S. KHAN : May I know from the hon. Minister what help Government is giving to these concerns to enable them to make more locomotives ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : Government are helping them in all possible ways.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : How does the production of coaches every year compare with the need for the replacement of old coaches ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : The production of coaches is not able to cope with the demand for replacements and the additional coaches that we now need are on account of the increase in traffic.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : Do Government intend to expand their production so as to satisfy at any rate our normal needs in respect of replacements ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : What we cannot produce here, we are trying to import.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : Are Government thinking of taking up new plants for expansion in this matter or not ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : The one major instance is the Perambur Coach Factory.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : What is its production ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : It is 350 when the factory will be in full production.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : That is a part of the existing production and what I wanted to know was whether Government was thinking of further expanding the production to meet our needs.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : It is not a part of the existing production. The Factory has been started just now.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : The hon. Minister mentioned it in the answer. I want to know whether Government has any plan for further expanding the production of coaches.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : Not at present.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Will the hon. Minister state if there was any proposal

to build a Railway coach building factory at Jharsuguda in Orissa ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I am not aware.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Will he make an enquiry and let us know ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : Of course.

SHRI B. RATH : What is the percentage ratio of the capacity of production of these coach building establishments and the actual production that is taking place in those establishments ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : To cover both our replacements and the additional requirements, we may require to the extent of 1,000 coaches. We are perhaps now getting only 600 to 650.

SHRI B. RATH : I believe the answer is not clear. I want to know what is the capacity of production of those establishments—that is what I want to know ; and what is the actual production of those establishments—that is also what I want to know.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : As far as the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. is concerned, they have said they will be able to produce upto 180 coaches. They are just now producing 120.

SHRI B. RATH : Did the Government assess the capacity of production of the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. or is it what they say on which the Government is relying ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Is the Minister aware that the Railway Minister during his last Budget speech set a target date by which self-sufficiency in coach requirements would be attained.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : If the Minister has made such a statement, it is so.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : What is the target year ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I thought the hon. Member knew it.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : I was wanting to know.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I shall let him know.

SHRI R. U. AGNIBHOJ : How do the cost of production and durability of the locomotives and railway coaches compare with those of foreign countries?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I think they are quite good.

RAILWAY CONCESSION FOR ARTISTES

*21. SHRI K. C. GEORGE : Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal before Government to grant railway concessions to stage and music artistes ;

(b) whether Government have received any representations regarding this ;

(c) if the answer to part (b) is in the affirmative, what action Government have taken on those representations and when a decision in this matter is expected to be reached ; and

(d) whether Government propose to grant railway concessions to other needy groups, such as Government employees, teachers and students ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : (a) Government have recently examined this matter and propose to review it again some time later.

(b) Yes.

(c) While it has not been found possible to revive the pre-war rail concessions for stage and music artistes, these have been allowed in specific cases on merits on an *ad hoc* basis.

(d) Concession in rail fares is already admissible to students of recognised institutions under certain conditions. One teacher or professor per party of

ten students, travelling for educational purposes only, is also allowed the same concession. The question of granting concession to teachers as such, travelling on their own, is under examination. It is not proposed to allow any rail concession to Government employees as such, except Railway employees, who are already allowed a limited number of free passes and P. T. O.s.

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SHRI K. C. GEORGE : May I know what is the principle which is adopted by Government to grant such concessions to artistes ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : The matter was examined when it was raised by an hon. Member of this House and his company was also given this concession. There are three other companies who have also got this concession.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE : What I want to know is the principle adopted by Government in deciding who should get this and who should not.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : The principle can be understood by seeing that one of the companies want to give their performance in Kashmir.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : We wanted to know the principle.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Discretion of the officers concerned.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE : I request the Chair to repeat the question to the Minister. There is no proper answer to my question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE : May I know from what parties the representations have been received by Government ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : Several artistes associations have made representation that the pre-war rail concession should be revived.