

5. Close co-ordination between the Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police and Police Officers is also maintained to deal with the criminals and receivers of stolen property.

6. Anti-theft measures exist in the shape of locking of compartments, welding and encasing electrical equipment, cleating and troughing of under frame wiring, shifting of theft prone equipment inside the coaches, so as to make their removal difficult by anti-social elements.

Measures against the theft of booked consignments

1. All important goods trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force armed staff.

2. Plain clothes Railway Protection Force staff is deputed to collect crime intelligence with a view to tracking down known criminals and receivers of stolen property.

3. Affected sections and yards are also at times patrolled by R. P. F. armed staff and R. P. F. Dog Squads.

4. R. P. F. guards in yards, sheds and platforms are detailed at strategic points round the clock.

5. Special attention is paid to the basic need of security at all transshipment points, parcel offices and goods sheds.

†DISTRIBUTION OF INDIAN FILMS AND SONGS IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

*741. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian films and songs are very popular in our neighbouring countries;

(b) whether these films are distributed through private agencies which are making misuse of the facility and if so, the names of the private agencies who are distributing these films and songs; and

(c) whether Government are considering any proposal for taking over the distribution ?

†Transferred from the 29th August, 1968.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While the films are distributed through the private agencies, there exist adequate safeguards against any possible misuse.

(c) No, Sir.

IMPORTED CABLES LYING UNUSED IN RAILWAY DEPOTS

1271. SHRI TARKESHWAR PANDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of imported copper clad cables are lying unused in various depots of the Zonal Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity and value thereof; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to make proper utilisation of these cables ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) No.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

LOSS INCURRED BY DURGAPUR PROJECTS LTD.

1272. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Durgapur Projects Ltd. incurred a loss of Rs. 1.75 crores during the year 1967-68; and that the loss during 1968-69 is likely to rise to Rs. 2.5 to 3 crores;

(b) whether the decision to transfer the staff from Calcutta to Durgapur is likely to add to the expenses of the firm on account of erecting new quarters for the transferred personnel and travelling charges of the Managing Director who has to travel frequently between Durgapur and Calcutta; and

(c) if so, the reasons for creating new posts like Senior Administrative Officer, Director of Personnel, Senior Sales Officer, Chief Stores Officer, etc. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) The approximate

profit and loss account indicates a working loss of about Rs. 1.75 crores during 1967-68. The loss during the financial year 1968-69 will be very much less if there is an improvement in the market for coke.

(b) The phased transfer of staff from Calcutta to Durgapur will have little impact on the total housing position. Some expenses will have to be incurred on the travel of Managing Director which is inevitable in the discharge of his duties.

(c) There is no post of Director of Personnel and the post of Chief Stores Officer is in existence from 1966. The creation of posts of Senior Administrative Officer and Chief Marketing/Sales Officer is for effecting better management.

APPOINTMENTS OF CONSULTANTS BY DURGAPUR PROJECTS LTD.

1273. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of consultants have been appointed by the Durgapur Projects Limited;

(b) if so, the total cost involved in these appointments;

(c) whether Kuljian Corporation was appointed as consultant for erection of the sixth Unit of Project Power Plant and they claimed Rs. 8.7 lakhs as consultation fee;

(d) whether erection of the sixth Unit was abandoned ultimately; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the abandonment of the same ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

PROMOTION IN F.T.A. OFFICE, ETC.

1274. SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of staff promoted on seniority-cum-suitability basis in the Foreign Traffic Accounts Office, Western Railway, Delhi, Traffic Account Office,

Ajmer and Delhi (Northern Railway) according to the Railway Board's letter No. E(NG) 66RR1/12/Economy/E (G) PL of 4th April, 1968;

(b) whether all such promotions were effected from 1st April, 1968 in these offices;

(c) if not the reasons for not implementing the Board's orders; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) 38.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

PLATFORM FOREMEN/INSPECTORS OF SOUTHERN RAILWAY

1275. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Platform Foremen or Inspectors in Southern Railway at present;

(b) what is their revised scale of pay; and

(c) whether the revised scale of pay has been made applicable to all of them and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Platform Foremen—26, Platform Inspectors—12.

(b) Platform Foremen are in scales Rs. 110-200(AS) and Rs. 150-240(AS), and Platform Inspectors are in scale Rs. 205-280.

(c) Yes.

MERGER OF ELGIN MILLS WITH B.I.C.

1276. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are opposed to the proposal for the merger of the Elgin Mills with the B. I. C.;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government of India gave its approval and supported the proposal initially; and