

demurrage because of inadequate facilities for wagon-loading at various stations on the Northern Railway;

(b) if so, the quantum of demurrage paid and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter to avoid such instances in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) Between the 1st January, 1968 and the 31st July, 1968, total demurrage amounting approximately to Rs. 45,000 was incurred by the Food Corporation of India at various stations served by the Northern Railways in the Punjab, Haryana, U.P., Rajasthan and Delhi, for delays in loading of wagons mainly because of the shortage of labour. In many of these cases, where refund is justified, claims for the same have been lodged with the Railways and in some cases the demurrage is recoverable from the handling and transport contractors.

(c) Alternative arrangements to replace the defaulting contractors have been made or are now being made. Labour strength has been augmented at the loading points.

COMMITTEES FUNCTIONING IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION

1502. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of various Advisory Committees, Boards or any other such organisations connected with his Ministry, the functions assigned to each of them and the names of the members and their qualifications;

(b) how many members in each Committee or Board are public men and how many of them are Government officials; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on these organisations during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI JAI-SUKHLAL HATHI) : (a) to (c) The required information is not readily available. The same is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

PASCHIM BANGA SAMAJ SAMITY

1503. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the tenure of Shri Mehr Chand Khanna as the Relief and Rehabilitation Minister a sum of about Rs. 50,000 plus costly equipments and instruments, like, X-Ray plant, were given to Paschim Banga Samaj Seba Samity;

(b) whether by a resolution of the said Samity Shri Asoke Sen was authorised to invest the said sum received from the Rehabilitation Ministry at interest;

(c) whether the said sum has been utilised to purchase 'Basumati', a Bengali daily of Calcutta;

(d) if so, whether Government have made any enquiry into the matter;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the said Samity sold at high rates the milk powder given to it for social welfare work by an American organisation through the mediation of Government on the ground that it was unfit for human consumption; and

(f) if so what is the amount of sale proceeds of this milk powder received by the Samity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) An amount Rs. 5,25,000 was sanctioned by this Ministry to the Samity during the years 1958-59 to 1962-63 for providing medical facilities for displaced persons from East Pakistan in Baranagar area etc. where there had been a heavy concentration of displaced persons from East Pakistan.

(b) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

RECRUITMENT RULES IN DANDAKARANYA PROJECT

1504. SHRI D. THENGARI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that recruitment rules in the Dandakarnya Project have not been finalised and gazetted so far;

(b) whether it is a fact that the D.D.A. was first assured by the Project