

RAILWAY STORES ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

*1183. **Shri Tulsidas:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the action taken by Government for the implementation of the recommendations made by the Railways Stores Enquiry Committee in order (i) to rationalise the procedure for stores purchase and (ii) to stop pilferage and wastage in fuel?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (i) It has not been possible to implement this recommendation as no final agreement has been reached with the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply who are at present responsible for purchasing the bulk of railway stores.

(ii) No recommendations were made by the Railway Stores Enquiry Committee on this subject.

EFFICIENCY BUREAU

*1184. **Shri Tulsidas:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Efficiency Bureau at the Centre, as mentioned in the White Paper on Indian Railways published in 1952 has been formed;

(b) if so, the work it has done in improving the efficiency and effecting economy in the Railway administration; and

(c) if not when Government propose to take action in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). As the strength and composition of the Efficiency Bureau and how best it could be used are matters still under detailed examination, the Bureau has not yet started functioning. Its formation is, however being expedited.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know, Sir, since considering this scheme, how many accidents in the railways have occurred?

Shri Alagesan: I do not think it arises from this question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: "Improving the efficiency and effecting economy in the Railway administration" is the subject.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: I mean deficiency, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has not got the information. Next question.

SAFDARJANG AIR PORT

*1185. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Government propose to construct any new Air Port in place of the Safdarjang Air Port near Delhi?

(b) If so, (i) what will be its cost and (ii) where will it be located?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) No. Sir. It is possible, however, that in case Palam is not available for development as an International Airport, a new aerodrome may have to be constructed in Delhi to serve the needs of Civil Aviation.

(b) These details will be worked out in due course if and when it is decided to construct a new aerodrome.

PALAM AIR PORT

*1186. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Government have considered any proposal for developing the Palam Air Port in accordance with international standards?

(b) If so, what will be the additional cost for doing so?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes.

(b) About Rs. 1 crore in case it is available for development as a Civil International Airport.

Shri Gidwani: May I know whether the Palam Air Port is under the dual control of the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Communications?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is a fact that it is being utilized for joint purposes.

Shri Gidwani: Is it due to financial difficulties that the required improvements are not being made?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Not exactly due to financial difficulties. It is at present under the control of the Air Forces, but it is being utilized as an International Airport and we have provided all the minimum facilities required as an International Airport.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know, Sir, what are the bases of international standards and how we are behind them?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shall we go into each item now: it is admitted that it is behind international standards.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह कहा कि पालम ऐयरपोर्ट को ठीक करने के लिए कोई एक करोड़ रुपये का खर्च होगा, क्या अभी बिना उस के काम नहीं चल रहा है, इस समय की आर्थिक स्थिति में एक करोड़ को जल्दी खर्च करने से क्या लाभ होगा ?

श्री जगजीवन राम : बहुत से काम ऐसे होते हैं जिन को आर्थिक स्थिति खराब होने पर भी करना ही पड़ता है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister may reply for the rest of the House also; he need not necessarily reply in Hindi.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : कई लोग अंग्रेजी भी नहीं समझते हैं।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: अच्छा दोनों में बोलिये।

प्रधान मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) : लेकिन जो सवाल नहीं समझे, वह जवाब कैसे समझेंगे।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In any language he likes.

श्री जगजीवन राम : इंटरनेशनल स्टैंडर्ड के ऐयरपोर्ट में कुछ सुविधाएं देना

ज़रूरी रहता है, कम से कम जो सुविधा होनी चाहिए, आज पालम ऐयरपोर्ट में उपलब्ध है, लेकिन जिन जिन उपादानों की और भी आवश्यकता होती है, उन का प्रबन्ध करना आवश्यक होता है और उन सुविधाओं को उपलब्ध करने के लिए खर्च करना पड़ सकता है।

Shri Gidwani: May I know whether Government intends to arrange for night sleeping at Palam Air Port because for the night services it is difficult for the passengers to go at late hours or in the early hours of the morning—just like waiting rooms in railway stations?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it one of the international standards?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: We have provided reasonable facilities for the passengers there. We have got a very good canteen, lounge and other things. Some of the passengers may retire there for a few hours if they so desire.

DISPOSAL OF WHEAT STOCKS IN HYDERABAD

*1187. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Central Government had turned down the request of the Hyderabad State Government to sell the stock of wheat lying with them at a reduced price as the Government Entomologist had warned the State Government that it would be unfit for consumption in six months' time?

(b) Had the Hyderabad State Government approached the Central Government again pointing out that the State would be put to a huge loss of money, if the wheat were not disposed of in time?

(c) Have Government considered the request of the Hyderabad State Government?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) No, Sir. In fact the Government of Hyderabad were advised to dispose of the wheat locally even by reducing