

Shri Frank Anthony: Is Government considering to give some kind of relief or more reasonable hours of duty to the supervisory staff?

Shri Alagesan: As I said, this practice obtains in the Southern Railway and at present they are having a spell of 12 hours work, immediately followed by 24 hours rest. In a week it comes to 4 days off. No complaints have so far been received, but if it is the desire of the staff that it should be changed to 8 hours duty, it can be considered.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether it is in the knowledge of the Ministry of Railways that due to the following of this rule, in the case of firemen and engine drivers, when they finish their duty on the way as soon as their time is up, it takes some time for the others to report for duty and so the train is late and Government has to undergo some additional expenditure on this account?

Shri Alagesan: I don't think any such thing has come to our knowledge.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the hon. Minister enquire into what happened between Kharagpur and Nagpur?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know, Sir, what amount of rest is given after 12 hours work?

Shri Alagesan: Immediately after the 12 hours' work, they are given 24 hours off.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: About a month ago an engine was attached to an express train and the train was 2 hours late at Lucknow. May I know whether in such cases also overtime is paid?

Shri Alagesan: These staff, as I said, have been classified as supervisory staff and, as such, they are not entitled to overtime. However, I can't say anything about that particular instance because I have no knowledge of it.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Your Minister has some knowledge of it, it seems.

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): The question of overtime does not arise in such cases.

W. G. ENGINES

*1192. **Shri Frank Anthony:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the W.G. engines, built at Chittaranjan Workshops, had to be withdrawn from the Southern Railway temporarily;

(b) whether this withdrawal of W.G. engines was due to cylinder cracks or some other defect;

(c) what these defects were due to; and

(d) the number of engines withdrawn from service?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Some had to be withdrawn.

(b) Due to cracked cylinders.

(c) The defect was due to weakness in the design of these cylinders, which has since been remedied.

(d) Ten.

Shri Frank Anthony: What was the loss to Government as a result of these defective cylinders made by Chittaranjan Workshops?

Shri Alagesan: I can't give off-hand the loss, but I may tell the House that the question of compensation in so far as imported cylinders are concerned is under correspondence.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know, Sir, what is the value of these cylinders which were cracked?

Shri Nambiar: Scrap value.

Shri Alagesan: The cylinders have been rectified and they have been put back in service and the engines are now working.

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether it was due to a defect in the original planning of the pattern or it was due to some defect in the working?

Shri Alagesan: It was due to a defect in the original design itself.

Shri Vittal Rao: May I know, Sir, whether the capacity to manufacture cylinders at Chittaranjan has since reached the stage where it will meet all our requirements?

Shri Alagesan: I can't say that we have established a capacity to meet all our requirements, but at present we are manufacturing cylinders.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know the number of cylinders cracked and whether Government have made any enquiries into the causes also?

Shri Alagesan: The matter was enquired into and the design was modified by the Central Standards Office. 30 locomotives had to be withdrawn so far, of which 11 have already been repaired and put back in service. The rest are under repair.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: May I know the proportion of these defective engines in relation to the total number of engines in service?

Shri Alagesan: The number of engines in service runs into thousands. As I have said, only 30 had to be withdrawn so far.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: I mean engines produced at Chittaranjan?

Shri Alagesan: As far as the cylinders that were cracked, are concerned, some of them were imported ones, and some were cylinders manufactured in Chittaranjan. Because they were also manufactured to the original design, they had cracked.

QUALIFIED SCOUTERS IN RAILWAY SCHOOL

*1193. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrangements already exist for the scouting in certain Railway Schools in India;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce the same in all Railway Schools;

(c) whether scouters with higher scouting and cubbing training are regarded as on a par with physical instructors and trained teachers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It depends on the policy of the State Government Education Departments as the Railway Schools have to follow the curricula prescribed by those Governments.

(c) and (d). No information is available.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether the curricula of the State Governments are strictly followed or whether the Railway Administration add something to it?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We follow them very strictly.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact, Sir, that for the scouters to be regarded as at par with physical instructors applications have been made to the Ministry of Railways and whether those applications have been forwarded to or consulted with the State Governments?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, Sir. The applications of students or staff who took special interest in this field were given encouragement by the Ministry of Education.

Shri Radha Raman: In how many schools under the Railways is this facility provided?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: In ten schools out of 152.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether these scout teams are affiliated to the All-India organisation?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, Sir.