

TATA LOCOMOTIVE AND ENGINEERING COMPANY

***696. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total outturn of boilers and locomotives by the Tata Locomotive and Engineering Company Ltd. during the year 1952-53;

(b) the target in respect of the outturn of boilers each month;

(c) whether any target has been fixed for the annual outturn of locomotives; and

(d) if so, the target so fixed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 30 boilers and 30 locomotives (complete with boilers).

(b) 8 boilers per month from December 1953.

(c) Yes.

(d) 1951-52 7.

1952-53 30

1953-54 33

1954-55 50

1955-56 50.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government are giving any help, or have they guaranteed any profit to that company, for manufacturing these goods?

Shri Alagesan: We have participated in the capital of the company. We have contributed Rs. 2 crores towards that.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know what will be the cost of one boiler produced in this factory? And how is that cost decided?

Shri Alagesan: I should like to have notice of that question.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether in the agreement that has been made with this company, so far this question has not been settled, as to what will be the price of the boiler produced in this factory?

Shri Alagesan: The negotiations have been going on for a number of years. We shall soon arrive at a result, and fixation of prices will be done very soon.

Shri S. N. Das: What is the basis on which any amount is advanced to this company for the boilers produced?

Shri Alagesan: Now, since the prices have not been determined, we are making *ad hoc* payments. After the prices are fixed, these will be adjusted.

MECHANIZATION OF TELEPHONE ACCOUNTING OFFICES

***697. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to mechanize the work of telephone bills and accounts in telephone accounting offices;

(b) if so, where this system is likely to be introduced first; and

(c) the estimated cost involved?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). An experiment is being made in this connection with a view to minimise complaints regarding incorrect or inaccurate bills in the Telephone Revenue Accounts Office (North) Delhi at a cost of about Rs. 2,00,000. If this experiment is successful the question of extending it to other offices would be considered with the limited purpose mentioned above.

Shri Punnoose: Apart from this scheme which might take time to fructify, may I know whether there is any other method, to minimise the complaints with regard to these telephone bills?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The hon. Member is well aware that the trunk traffic has increased, since partition, from 5.3 million calls in 1948, to 12.8 million calls in 1952-53. As a result, the work has become too unwieldy,