

## TEA GARDEN LABOUR

**452. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:**

(a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state what percentage of total tea garden labour are women?

(b) How many are children?

(c) How many women and child labourers have been thrown out of jobs due to recent closure of tea gardens?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). A statement showing the available information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 29.]

(c) About 58,000 workers were rendered unemployed by the closure of tea gardens in different States. Separate figures in respect of such women and child workers are not readily available. Most of them must by now have been taken back with the reopening of the gardens.

## FRONTIER MAIL

**453. Shri Ram Dass:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that sometime back, a III class bogie used to be attached to the Up Frontier Mail to be detached at Ambala Cantonment for connecting with the Ambala Nangal Down train?

(b) For how long was this arrangement continued?

(c) When was this arrangement discontinued and why?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) A bogie carriage having inter and third class accommodation used to run between Delhi and Nangal Dam firstly by trains Nos. 3 DUK/1/URN and 2/URN/6 DUK and subsequently by trains Nos. 1 Up Delhi-Kalka Mail/1 URN and 2 URN/2 Down Kalka-Delhi Mail and not by Frontier Mails to and from Ambala Cantt as stated in the question.

(b) From 1st January 1951 to 14th November, 1952.

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(c) From 15th November, 1952, the coach having inter and third class accommodation was replaced with a coach having first, second and inter class accommodation in view of the poor utilization of third class accommodation provided in the through coach. Arrangements are, however, in hand to convert some of the accommodation in the existing through service coach into third class to cater to the needs of the small volume of third class passenger traffic offering between Delhi and Nangal Dam.

## SHORTAGE OF WAGONS

**454. Shri Muniswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that shortage of wagons is keenly felt in our Railways at present especially in the Southern Railway?

(b) How far has this problem been solved during the recent past?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) At present the rail transport capacity available, including that on the Southern Railway, is not adequate to meet currently all the demands of traffic taken at their face value; it has, however, been proved often that all the indents are not necessarily genuine.

During May, June and July, an unprecedented shortage of water and sickness amongst the staff adversely affected the movement of traffic.

(b) The adverse factors mentioned have since ceased to exist and the position on the whole has become normal. The need for rationing rail transport, however, continues.

## LIGHT HOUSE DEPARTMENT

**455. Shri Raḡhunath Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how much loan has so far been advanced to the Light house Department out of the sum of rupees 80 lakhs provided to be granted as loans in the Five-year Plan for India's Economic Development?