

Duties of labourers on Railways

3612. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the unskilled labourers of carriage and wagon branch of the South-Eastern, Central and North-Eastern Railways are deputed to perform the duties of semi-skilled nature; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not upgrading such posts to semi-skilled grade?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Wooden Sleepers

3613. Shri Chandak: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any order has been placed on foreign firms for wooden sleepers in response to the Global Tender floated in December, 1957;

(b) if so, the particulars of the firm or firms with sizes, quantities, species of timber and c.i.f. prices; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons for not accepting any offer?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes. Orders have so far been placed on two firms in Australia. More orders will be placed shortly.

(b) Two statements showing the requisite information are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 26]

(c) Does not arise.

Wooden Sleepers

3614. Shri Chandak: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many countries tendered for wooden sleepers in response to the Global Tender floated in December 1957; and

(b) whether the Government propose to float fresh Global tender or start direct negotiations with foreign firms through Government Trade Representatives or give up the idea of procuring wooden sleepers from external sources?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Twenty.

(b) There is no proposal to float fresh Global Tender; response to the tender called in 1957 is good.

Theft of Railway Properties

3615. Shri Ghosal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether some lorry-loads of stolen Railway properties were recovered near Saktigarh, Burdwan during the 3rd week of April, 1958; and

(b) if so, what is the value of the goods recovered?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 3,000 approximately.

Interim General Plan for Greater Delhi

3616. Shri P. L. Barupal: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi administration has proposed to acquire 3097·34 acres of land for the execution of the interim general plan for greater Delhi; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the said plan?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (1) Development of 3000 acres of land for housing.

2. Development of 200 acres for industrial purposes.

3. Provision of Slaughter House and development of other ancillary trades.

4. Resettlement of Gwalas and Cattle (1600 heads of cattle).

5. Slum Clearance and improvement of 1500 Katra.