

Wagon Shortage

298. Shri Ramsobhendra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Khagapathi Pradhani:
Shri Heerji Bhal:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the position to-date in respect of wagon shortage (both B.G. and M. G.); and

(b) the steps taken to ensure a more satisfactory wagon supply position?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) There is, in general, no shortage of wagons. The Railways are at present loading about 25,000 wagons per day on the Broad Gauge and 12,000 wagons on the Metre Gauge. The outstanding indents on the Indian Railways as a whole amounts to about three days' loading potential on the Broad Gauge and four days on the Metre Gauge. There may, however, be pockets where shortage of certain types of wagons may develop.

Arrears also develop on account of circumstances outside the Railways' control, such as civil disturbances, bundhs, cyclonic weather, etc. Difficulty is often created by such incidents.

(b) A constant lookout is maintained for situations and areas where shortages develop due to normal operating reasons and timely action is taken. Action is also taken to overcome the adverse effects of incidents beyond the control of the railway to the extent possible.

Railway line between Berhampur and Phulbani

299. Shri F. K. Deo:
Shri G. C. Naik:
Shri K. F. Singh Deo:
Shri A. Dips:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to

construct a railway line between Berhampur and Phulbani; and

(b) if so, when it is going to materialise?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Railway Board at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Arrest at Dimapur Railway Station

300. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether two persons were arrested at Dimapur Railway Station on the 10th March, 1967 for loitering in a suspicious manner at the time of the arrival of Assam Mail,

(b) if so, whether the investigation has been completed; and

(c) what further action has been taken in the matter?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes.

(b) Not yet.

(c) Further action can only be taken on completion of the investigation by the Government Railway Police, Dimapur.

Fixation of Price of Rubber by Tariff Commission

311. Sri Vasudevan Nair: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tariff Commission is working for the fixation of a fair price for the indigenously produced natural rubber;

(b) whether the commission is visiting all the major States engaged in the production of rubber;

(c) whether the Commission has received representation from the small growers of Kerala State to visit that State; and