

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

ATTACHING OF SLEEPER COACH TO DANAPUR FAST PASSENGER TRAIN

1921. **SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO :
SHRI BENI SHANKER
SHARMA :**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Bhagalpur being an important business centre on the Sahebganj Loop line of the Eastern Railway, hundreds of passengers travel between Bhagalpur and Calcutta everyday by the Danapur Fast Passenger for their downward journey, and the Delhi Express for their up journey;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no sleeper coach attached to the Danapur Fast Passenger, which puts passengers to great inconvenience; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to attach a three-tier sleeper coach to the Danapur Fast Passenger at Bhagalpur for the convenience of the third class local travelling public ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes. The number of passengers travelling between Bhagalpur and Calcutta is approximately 100 per day by all trains.

(b) and (c). No sleeper coach is attached to 327/328 Howrah-Danapur Fast Passenger at present. Sleeper coaches are being built on a programmed basis. The question of introducing a sleeper coach on 327Up/328Dn. Howrah-Danapur Fast Passenger trains will be considered when more coaches become available.

FURNISHING OF ROOMS OF RAILWAY BOARD'S OFFICERS

1922. **SHRI BABURAO PATEL :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent for furnishing the rooms of the Chairman, Members, Additional Members, Directors and officials of

similar status of the Railway Board in New Delhi, year-wise, during the last five years;

(b) the names of contractors or companies who did the furnishing;

(c) the cost of imported furnishing material for this purpose;

(d) whether tenders were called for before giving the contracts; and

(e) whether Government have any plans to effect an economy on this account ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) A statement showing the position is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT.—228/68.*]

(b) *Air-Conditioning :* M/s. Voltas Limited and Air Conditioning Corporation Private Limited, through the Northern Railway.

Furniture : M/s. S. Karam Singh and Son, New Delhi.

Carpets : Central Cottage Industries Emporium, New Delhi.

Steel Almirahs : M/s. Godrej and Boyce Mfg. Company Private Limited.

(c) No imported furnishing material was used.

(d) Air Conditioners and steel almirahs were procured on DGS&D's running/rate contracts. As regards furniture, tenders are called for every year from local firms and contract for the supply of furniture and carrying out standard repairs is awarded to the lowest tenderer for one year. No tenders were called for in respect of purchases made through the Central Cottage Industries Emporium.

(e) Expenditure on furniture is being restricted to the minimum extent possible.

MANUFACTURE OF CYCLE RIMS

1923. **SHRI BABURAO PATEL :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the sponsors and their foreign collaborators who had put up a scheme for manufacturing cycle rims in India through the Government of Haryana;

(b) the reasons why this proposal could not be accepted;