

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5954
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2001
MISSING OF CAST IRON WATER PIPELINE
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large section of cast iron water pipeline at the Central Railway's Thakurli power house was found missing in November, 1999 as reported in the Indian Express dated February 21, 2001;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether an enquiry committee was set up to investigate the disappearance of the water pipeline;
- (d) if so, the details thereof ;
- (e) whether the report of the inquiry committee has since been received and if so, the outcome thereof;
- (f) the action taken by the Government against the guilty officials; and
- (g) if not, the time by which the enquiry report is likely to be received?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. About 928 metric tones of cast iron water pipeline was reported missing in November 1999 at the Central Railway's Thakurli Power House. There was an auction sale of scrap cast iron pipeline at the Central Railway's Thakurli Power House in the month of March 1999. One M/s. Hassan & Co. was awarded the sale on "as is, where is basis". The material collected by dismantling the pipeline was kept in the Power House premises under guard by the buyer. However, when the delivery was effected, the buyer demanded refund on account of short delivery.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. An enquiry Committee consisting of three Junior Administrative Grade Officers was ordered on 8.8.2000.

(e) to (g): The enquiry committee found that the stock holder and the delivery team failed to account for the material properly and that they did not exercise requisite caution. The case is now under investigation by the Vigilance Branch of the Central Railway.