

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5212
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2000
MISUSE OF AUTHORITY BY RAILWAY OFFICIALS
A. VENKATESH NAIK

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the News-item captioned "Two officials take a train for themselves" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated April 7, 2000;
- (b) whether the officials cost the Railways nearly Rs. 1 lakh for the seven hour journey at a time when the Government are trying to enforce strict austerity measures;
- (c) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against these officials?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Engine No. 20412 based at Ghaziabad, was required to go "light only"(without train) to the Electric Loco-shed, Ghaziabad. As the Engine was anyway going towards Ghaziabad for necessary repairs and schedule maintenance, this opportunity was utilised by senior official to reach Delhi to attend an important meeting with the General Manager at New Delhi on 3.4.2000. Since the loco movement was essentially made for operational reasons, no significant extra expenditure was involved.
- (c) The facts were ascertained about the news item. No inquiry was considered necessary. However, instructions have been issued to avoid recurrence of such situations as far as possible especially in view of on going austerity drive.
- (d) Does not arise.