

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** It is true that the price of the American locomotive is higher than the price of the locally produced locomotive. But what we, the Railway Ministry, actually pay is the market price of the imported locomotive. Supposing the cost of an imported locomotive is Rs. 6 lakhs, the railways would pay a little over Rs. 3 lakhs.

**Shri Yajnik:** Who pays the rest?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** That is adjusted by the Finance Ministry.

**Shri Yajnik:** What is the total expense incurred under this head, i.e. the purchase of these locomotives?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** According to the American price the value of all the locomotives taken was Rs. 6.8 crores. But we paid Rs. 3.89 crores.

**Shri Ranga:** "We" means the Railways? Nevertheless, from the Finance Ministry we pay something more in order to make up the total price

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** No. What we pay is the international price of the locomotives

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know whether the whole Government is working as a team. Now an impression has been created that the Railway Ministry pays only Rs 3 lakhs whereas the rest is being paid by the Finance Ministry.

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** The supply of locomotives is under an aid agreement. The Finance Ministry does not have to pay anything. We pay to the Finance Ministry.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then it is understandable. The supply is in the form of an aid.

**Shri Ranga:** We were importing from Canada also some locomotives, more or less of the same type. How much were we paying for that? Is there any difference between the Canadian and American prices and, if so, how much?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** That would not arise out of this question. From the Commonwealth countries also we were getting some locomotives under

the Colombo Plan. But I do not have the exact figures.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** The hon. Deputy Minister has stated that 32 locomotives had been purchased under the scheme. Just now the hon. Minister has stated that the amount spent was about Rs. 6 crores and odd. Are we to understand that the American price of 32 locomotives was about Rs. 6 crores and odd? I think there is some flaw in it.

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** The hon. Minister gave the price of 100 locomotives, on the basis of which the agreement was arrived at. The question specifically asked for the number of locomotives imported during 1956-57. During that year 32 locomotives were imported. But the total price of 100 locomotives is about 6 crores

**Shri Supakar:** The hon. Deputy Minister has stated that we have to pay the market price for the locomotives. I want to know how this market price is determined when we purchase the locomotives.

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** The market price is determined by inviting local tenders

**Shri C. D. Pande:** I will put only one question. As there is now a tendency to order diesel electric engines and as we have no diesel manufacturing industries in this country, I want to know whether Government will consider the possibility of converting Chittaranjan into a diesel electric manufacturing unit.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a suggestion for action. It does not arise out of this question. Hon. Members want to convert this Question Hour into a general debate on Railways.

**Bezwada-Masulipatam Line**

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\*946 { **Shri Krishnalaiah:**  
**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 556 on the 25th November, 1956 and state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the metre gauge line from

Bezvada to Marunpatam and Gudivada to Bhimavaram on the Southern Railway into a broad gauge line;

(b) the estimated cost of this conversion,

(c) between what sections of the line the first phase of the work will commence, and

(d) when the work of conversion is proposed to be undertaken?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir This project is included in the Second Five Year Plan

(b) to (d) This will be known after the Survey Reports are received and examined

Shri Balrama Krishnalah: My name has wrongly been put as 'Krishnalah' in the Question It should be 'Balarama Krishnalah'.

Mr Speaker: All right

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether a survey is now being conducted?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The survey in respect of Gudivada-Bhimavaram line has been sanctioned

Shri T. V. Vittal Rao: May I know whether there was any survey or any engineering report before it was included in the Second Plan?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The survey of the line which I have just mentioned was sanctioned on 19th February 1957 and estimates had been called for

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: When do you hope to receive the survey report?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: We hope to get it fairly soon. But it is difficult to give any definite date

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Since this line is extending to a length of 111 miles, may I know whether Government can undertake this work during the Plan period?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: We will do our best subject to the availability of material

### Railway Zone (Rajasthan and Saurashtra)

\*949 Shri J. R. Mehta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have so far considered the advisability of the integration of the metre gauge systems in Rajasthan and Saurashtra into a single zone in the interest of efficiency as well as economy; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to consider it now?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b) Formation of a separate railway zone by integrating the metre-gauge systems of the Northern and Western Railways traversing Rajasthan and ex-Saurashtra States is not considered necessary, but a more rational integration of the metre gauge systems of the two Railways is under examination

Shri J. R. Mehta: May I know whether, with the single exception of Uttar Pradesh, which is in a special geographical position, there is any other State in which two metre-gauge systems work side by side under different administrations?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: As the hon. Minister made it very clear the other day, our object is to serve the whole country irrespective of State boundaries. It is a sheer coincidence that two metre-gauge systems in one State are under two different administrations

Shri Kasiwal: In view of the fact that the port of Kandla is going to be the spearhead of imports and exports in Saurashtra and Rajasthan, may I know what special steps the Government are taking to facilitate transport in Rajasthan and Saurashtra?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The hon. Member may put a separate question

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know what is the nature of the