

Railway Employees Under Suspension

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*943 { **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:**
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several employees are still kept under suspension under the Railway Services (Safeguarding of National Security) Rules;

(b) if so, their number;

(c) what steps are being taken to expedite decision in these cases; and

(d) whether these cases are being reviewed by the Minister himself on the basis of his promise given on the floor of the House, during the last session?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) 52.

(c) These cases are actively under consideration.

(d) Yes.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know, out of 52 cases, how many are under suspension for well over 3 or 4 years?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Quite a large number are under suspension since 1948 and 1949

Shri Tangamani: Out of the 52, how many are from the Southern Railway, from the Ex-S.I.R.?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Nine

Shri B. S. Murthy: What are the reasons for this extraordinary delay in disposing of these cases for ten years?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Sometimes, the cases are taken by the employees to the various courts. We have to wait until such time as the courts give their decision. Sometimes, the Railway Ministry has to act in accordance with the decision of the

courts. All these matters lead to delay.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is it not a fact that in some cases, nearly two or three years are taken for investigation and then, it is being postponed?

Mr. Speaker: What is the good of asking the general question? Out of the nine cases, if the hon. Member is interested in any case, he may put a question later.

Shri B. S. Murthy: No, no; I am asking....

Mr. Speaker: What is the good of saying generally, are we not bad? He may take a particular instance.

Shri B. S. Murthy: No, no.

Shri Tangamani: May I know when these cases would be finally disposed of?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The whole position is being reviewed. We hope it won't be long. In the course of the next few months, we hope to finalise all these cases. One of the main reasons for delay has been, as the hon. Minister just now said, some of them started in 1949. Since then, many things have changed. We have called for the latest police reports so that we can take a fair and just view of the cases

Exhibition of Documentaries at Railway Stations

*944 **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what are the Railway Stations where documentaries and newsreels are being exhibited at present?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): All the zonal railways except the Eastern and Northern Railways, have now projection equipment. The equipment is not permanently installed at any particular station, but is moved periodically from station to station, and documentaries have been exhibited at a large number of stations.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether documentaries in respect of social education have been prepared by the Railways or they are showing those documentaries prepared by the Publications Division?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: A large number of documentaries have been prepared, something like 70, by the Railways. A number of these are on social education.

Shri Subbiah Ambalam: May I know the names of the stations in the Southern Railway where these documentaries have been exhibited?

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member is interested in any one station, he may ask that.

Shri Subbiah Ambalam: The number of stations in Southern Railway.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I will take half a minute to read it, Sir, Trivindrum Central, Madurai, Trichinopoly, Salem, Mangalore, Bangalore, Bezwada, Madras, Egmore, Mysore, Gudur, Hubli, Tinnevely, Jolarpet, Erode, Katpadi and Arko-nam.

Shri Damani: What is the guiding factor for extending these facilities to other stations?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We will extend as we gain more experience and as we are able to get public opinion about this. If these are popular, we will extend.

Mr. Speaker: If hon. Members are interested in any particular station, they may write to the Minister and get them exhibited in their stations

Locomotives

*945. **Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many locomotives were supplied to India in 1956-57 by U.S.A. under Indo-American Technical Co-operation Programme?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): 22.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Has any agreement been reached under this Indo-American Technical Co-operation Programme for the Supply of locomotives under the Second Plan?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: This is entirely a different question.

Mr. Speaker: That is for 1956-57. He wants for 1957-58.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: What is the expected supply of locomotives under the Second Plan, not only for 1956-57, but from 1956 to 1961.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The other day I gave a reply to this question. I cannot keep all these figures in my head.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: There was negotiation going on with some French firms for the supply of locomotives. May I know whether that negotiation has been completed or any agreement has been signed?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: That was under a different arrangement.

Mr. Speaker: How does that question arise? When an hon. Member puts a question, he need not necessarily put a supplementary. It is not as if every member who puts a question must put some supplementary or other. Now how does this question arise?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: This question is about the supply of locomotives under the T. C. M.

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): The question is about the supply of locomotives under the T. C. M. and if the hon. Member puts a question about other locomotives I have no information.

Mr. Speaker: That is exactly what I said. This relates to the Indo-American aid for the year 1956-57.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether it is a fact that the price of locomotives supplied under the scheme is about Rs. 10 lakhs for each locomotive, which is twice as much as the cost of the indigenous manufacture?