

**Shrimati Ha Palchandhuri:** In spite of the fact that M/s. Voltas have not yet cheapened the production of this thing yet, may I know whether even at the price as it stands now it is not much cheaper than the tractors that we import?

**Shri A. F. Jain:** They are a different type of implements. They are not a substitute for tractors. In fact, they are cattle-driven implements of an improved type. We have no responsibility for manufacturing them. The firm wants us to recommend them to the farmers. We say that we will make a trial before we recommend and if found suitable then alone we will recommend.

#### Railway Accident

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\*1566. { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**  
**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**  
**Shri Assar:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether six persons were killed and two persons seriously injured while crossing the Munair Railway Bridge on the Bezwada-Kazipet Section, by an express train on the 24th March, 1958;

(b) whether a similar accident occurred last year also; and

(c) what steps, if any, were taken for the avoidance of such unhappy occurrences after last year's accident?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) At about 2.35 hours on the night of 23rd/24th March 1958, while No. 17 Up Janata Express was running between Garla and Gundrati Margoo stations, on the Bezwada-Kazipet Section of the Central Railway, 6 persons, who were trespassing across the Pakkal bridge at mile 257/2-3, were knocked down by it, of whom 4 persons died and 2 others received grievous injuries.

(b) On 14th January, 1957 also a similar incident occurred on the same

bridge in which 4 persons who were also trespassing the bridge, were run over by No. 329 Dn passenger.

(c) Notice Boards are provided at either end of the bridge indicating 'No Thoroughfare-trespassers will be prosecuted'. If still persons trespass the Railway Bridge the Railway administration cannot prevent such accidents occurring, as there is no foot-path available—only trolley refuges exist.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know whether Government propose to take any other security measures or they want to leave it as it is?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I could not follow the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know whether besides mere warning any other steps are going to be taken.

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Corrugated iron sheets have been put in between the tracks for use of our gangmen, and I presume some people from the public also utilise those sheets. Whenever there is a train approaching, there is enough space for them to get into one of the refuges.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** In view of the two accidents in which eight persons have been killed, may I know whether Government will consult the State Governments about providing a footpath or a highway bridge somewhere?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Sir, we will certainly examine that; but we really do not feel that it is necessary to provide a footpath.

**Shri Yajnik:** May I know if it is not obligatory on the railway administration to provide a foot-path wherever there is a bridge?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** I do not think it is obligatory to do so at every place where a bridge is built. Where any important road comes in, we do provide it, but on all bridges, to provide foot-paths is not feasible.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know whether this question has been examined in a general way as to what further steps Government could take in general to avoid such accidents? May I know whether the Government have got any scheme for it, or whether they want to leave things as they are and consider them as satisfactory?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** There may be schemes, but I do not think those schemes will be practicable, because the costs will be prohibitive. The one possible scheme will be to barricade the railway line all along so that unauthorised trespass is not possible. The other alternative is to provide foot-paths on all bridges some foot-paths or refuges exist on this particular. But, if persons trespass in the night or during midnight and are not mindful of a train coming or if they do not take advantage of the refuge that is provided there, such accidents may happen.

#### Equipment for Community Development Blocks

\*1567. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the equipment for Community Development Blocks will be received from the U.S.A.; and

(b) what are the details of that equipment?

**The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey):** (a) Supplies are expected to be completed by the end of July, 1958.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 18.]

**Shri Hem Raj:** May I know the method by which this equipment is to be distributed to different blocks?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** Every Community Development block has been supplied with jeeps and audio-visual equipment, and a cinema projector. The present blocks are going to be supplied one jeep each.

**Shri Hem Raj:** In view of the fact that the village roads which have been constructed in the hilly areas are subject to erosion, may I know how whether these hilly areas will be given priority in the matter of supply of road rollers?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** Wherever the State Governments make a demand for the road rollers, the road rollers will be supplied.

**Shri Panigrahi:** May I know the total amount of assistance that we have got so far from the U.S.A. for the Community Projects?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** A little over 14 million dollars, out of which a little over 12 million dollars are by way of grant-in-aid and the rest is developmental loan.

**Shri Panigrahi:** As we are continuing the Community Development schemes up to 1963, may I know whether we can expect this American assistance also up to 1963?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** We have not considered that matter as yet.

**Shri Hoda:** There was a complaint that the price of this equipment that is debited is very high. May I know what is the cost of a jeep, which is debited?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** I cannot give the figures off-hand, but I believe all this equipment is ordered on a world tender basis. So, there is no question of an equipment being more expensive.

वन गवेषणा संस्था, देहरादून

\*१५६८. श्री नरत दर्शन : का

काष्ठ तथा कृषि मंत्री ६ दिसम्बर,

१९५६ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ६२१ के

उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बतान की कृपा करेंगे

कि वन गवेषणा संस्था, देहरादून के सम्बन्ध

में प्रोफेसर एच० जी० चैम्पियन द्वारा की

गई सिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित करने की दिशा

में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?