

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): Why indirect, Sir? There is a direct effect on the earnings. Surely on account of this reduction, not only our people do not go outside, but fewer outsiders come here. As regards the other eventuality, although the number of tourists is the same or has increased slightly, earnings have gone down for obvious reasons.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know whether the Ministry of Transport and Communications has discussed with the Finance Ministry this crucial point that this measure has adversely affected not only tourism, but the foreign exchange position, inasmuch as the foreign exchange earnings have gone down from Rs 48 crores to Rs. 37 crores? May I know whether you have discussed this matter with the Finance Ministry and if so, what are the conclusions you have arrived at?

Shri S. K. Patil: We have been very anxious that this basic allowance should be increased and we are discussing it with the Finance Ministry. We hope that in the near future we shall be able to increase it.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: How much foreign exchange has been saved due to this decision?

Shri S. K. Patil: Anything that is not spent is saved.

Train Derailment

*53 { Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:
Shri P. C. Boroah:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Amingaon bound 5 Up Express met with an accident on the morning of the 20th May, 1950 between Sonali and Jhans stations on the Katihar-Bilguri Section of the North East Frontier Railway;

(b) if so, the details of the accident such as its causes, casualties among the passengers and railway staff, relief given, the loss of property of passengers and the railways; and

(c) the steps taken in regard thereto?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahmawaz Khan): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix I, Annexure No 10].

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: स्टेटमेंट को देखने में यह जाहिर होता है कि ३७ घादमी बायल हुए और उनमें से एक घादमी का देहान्त हो गया तथा चार नीरियतनी बायल हुए। उन लोगों को सरकार ने ३०० रु. कम्पेन्सेशन दिया। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या चार घादमियों की जान की कीमत सिर्फ ३०० रु. ही है, यानि ७५ रु. की घादमी?

श्री साहमवाज खान: यह कोई कम्पेन्सेशन नहीं दिया गया है। एक क्लेमस कमिशनर मुकदमा किया गया है जिसके पास क्लेमस भेजे जायेंगे। वह तो कुछ ऐड हाक पेमेन्ट, किया गया है, जो अस्पताल के जरूरी एक्साजात है उनके लिये।

Shri Ansar Harvani: I suggest that S Q No 100 may also be taken up along with this.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to take it.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Just now it was stated that compensation has not been paid. May I know whether compensation will be paid to the parties over and above the *ex gratis* payment that has been made to them?

Shri Shahmawaz Khan: The claims will be submitted to the claims commissioner and it is up to him to decide to whom to make payment and what

amount to each individual on the merits of each individual case.

Shrimati Manjula Devi: May I know whether the General Manager of the section received a letter dated 22nd May from one of the victims of the accident rejecting the press version of that?

Shri Shahnawas Khan: The investigation into the accident was made by the Government Inspector of Railways. Surely, his finding is more reliable than the press reports or some individual's letter to the General Manager.

Shrimati Manjula Devi: That was one of the victims. I want to know whether the General Manager of the section received a letter from one of the victims, rejecting the press reports.

Shri Shahnawas Khan: As I just submitted, we do not go by the press reports. We go by the finding of the Government Inspector of Railways. I am not aware of the particular letter which the General Manager is supposed to have received. But if any victim had anything to say the proper person to make a submission to was the Government Inspector of Railways.

Shri Tangamani: The hon. Deputy Minister has stated that the Government Inspector of Railways, Calcutta, has conducted the enquiry and has given his findings. If he has given his findings, what action has the Government taken on the basis of the findings?

Shri Shahnawas Khan: He has only submitted his provisional findings.

Shri P. G. Sen: Is it a fact that the local authorities at Purnea differed from the findings of the Government Inspector, so far as the causes for the accident are concerned?

Shri Shahnawas Khan: The cause of the accident, as given by the Government Inspector of Railways in his provisional findings, is that the track was tampered with by a person or persons unknown.

श्री राजकुमार सिंह : यकीनन वह तय हो चुका है कि ट्रैक की टेम्परिंग के कारण से ऐसिडेंट हुआ है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि रेलवे की तरफ से प्रापर कोर्ट में कोई केस रजिस्टर किया गया या नहीं ?

श्री शाहनवाज खान : मुकामी पुलिस ने है वह तफतीश कर रही है। जब उनके कोई मुजरिम मिल जायेगा जिसने यह किया है तो उसके खिलाफ कार्रवाई की जायेगी।

Expeditious Delivery of Goods by Railways

+
 { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Pandit D. N. Tiwary:
 *54. { **Shri Damani:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Pahadia:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have evolved any scheme for increased facility and expeditious delivery in respect of goods transport (including door to door delivery), and

(b) if so, the outline and implications of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Additional measures for expeditious transport of goods and for door to door delivery have been taken.

(b) Brief particulars of these measures are —

- (1) Provision of Guaranteed Transit Service between specific pairs of important stations where the time of transit is guaranteed beforehand so that the merchants know that the delivery will be effected within a specific target time.