

Railway Sleepers

***302. Shri Raman:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 142 on the 15th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether in accordance with the terms of the contract agreement the firm has replaced the sleepers which developed cracks; and

(b) if so, the amount involved in such replacement?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Not yet, Sir. The matter is under correspondence with the firm.

(b) Does not arise.

Panel of Engineers for Irrigation and Power Projects

***303. Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1219 on the 1st April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Panel of outstanding Engineers for consultation on problems pertaining to Irrigation and Power projects is being utilised now for the projects;

(b) if so, the names of the projects;

(c) whether there is a proposal to get the services of such Engineers from States like Madras and Mysore; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to utilise their talents?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Consultants' advice was sought in regard to the following projects:

- (i) Broach Irrigation Project.
- (ii) Tawa Project.

(iii) Gas Turbine Installation at Naharkatiya (Assam).

(c) Selection of Consultants is not based on consideration of State of

origin. There is no proposal at present to add to the existing panel of Consultants.

(d) Does not arise.

Shipping Freight Rates

***304. Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain members of the Indian Coastal Conference have demanded abnormally high freight rates for shipping rice from Visakhapatnam to Calcutta; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Coastal Conference had originally demanded a freight rate of Rs. 28 per ton on liner basis for carrying rice cargo from Visakhapatnam to Calcutta, as against their own scheduled rate of Rs. 24.50 nP. per ton. On reconsideration, however, the Conference have now agreed to accept their tariff rate of Rs. 24.50 nP. subject to review of this rate in December, 1960.

Nagas' Attacks on Railways

***305.** {
 Shri Hem Barua:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
 Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 Shri Raghunath Singh:
 Shri P. C. Borooah:
 Shri Basumatari:
 Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:
 Shri Bishwanath Roy:
 Shri Hem Raj:
 Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
 Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
 Shri Amjad Ali:
 Shri Rajendra Singh:
 Shri Ramji Verma:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of times the train services between

Pandu and Dibrugarh remained disrupted recently due to hostile Nagas attacking running trains;

(b) what is the total number of incidents and railwaymen killed or injured due to activities of the hostile Nagas;

(c) what were the steps taken to avoid such incidents and resume the disrupted train services as speedily as possible;

(d) whether any compensation has been paid to the injured and the families of the dead;

(e) whether any steps of a permanent nature have been taken to avoid recrudescence of such incidents in future; and

(f) if so, the nature thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). There have been two such incidents namely, one on 24th May 1960 and another on 1st June 1960, resulting in the death of one railway servant and injuries to 5 others. While, after the first incident: only a couple of trains suffered detention there was considerable dislocation to traffic as a result of the second incident.

(c) (i) Military patrolling on Lumding-Mariani Section, was intensified and more out posts were set up to protect vulnerable spots.

(ii) Every possible protection was given to the running as well as station staff working in the disturbed area and armed escorts were provided on the trains running on the affected section.

(iii) The engines have been fitted with steel plates shutters and sand bags placed in the brake vans to provide protection to the running staff against bullets.

(iv) Jungles upto 100 feet on either side of the track in the vulnerable area are being cleared to increase visibility.

(d) Yes, besides an *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 200 to the family of the deceased railway servant and Rs. 100 each to the injured, an award of Rs. 10,000 has also been sanctioned to the widow of the deceased in the form of annuity.

(e) and (f). Preventive measures mentioned in reply to part (c) above, would continue to be taken so long as considered necessary.

Family Planning

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri A. M. Tariq:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
 *306. **Shri Padam Dev:**
Shri Abdul Salam:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 407 on the 26th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of the Committee appointed to review the work of family planning; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations therein?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement containing the required information is laid on the table of the Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 80.]

Railway Line for Dandakaranya

Shri D. C. Sharma:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
 *307. **Shri Madhusudan Rao:**
Shri Jangde:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 524 on the 2nd