

Railway Accident near Ferozabad

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 *47. { Shri S. A. Mehdi:
 { Shri P. G. Deb:
 { Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether several railway passengers were thrown away from the moving train near Ferozabad on the 18th September, 1960; and

(b) if so, the details of the same?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir; three passengers, while travelling by 2 Down, Agra Cantt.-Tundla-Kanpur Passenger Train on 18th September, 1960, were beaten and thrown out between Ferozabad and Makhanpur Railway Stations by certain miscreants. One of the passengers died and the other 2 received injuries. The case is under Police investigation.

Shri S. A. Mehdi: What was the main reason for the accident? Is it over-crowding or some accidental mishap? If it was due to over-crowding, what special steps have the Government taken?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Enquiry is being made. The police are investigating.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether any departmental enquiry was held into this and whether it was as a result of communal riot at Ferozabad or it was just an accident in the train?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The police are holding an enquiry. We do not do it.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Is it not a fact that often accidents take place at the Ferozabad station? There is no other station which had more accidents than Ferozabad. What is the reason?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I cannot say it is often. It is an accident. It will be investigated.

Shri P. G. Deb: How much compensation has been paid to the railway passengers?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No question of compensation.

Shri Rajendra Singh: The question is whether the passengers who have fallen victim to the accident have been given some money or not from the Government?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Compensation is paid only in the case of casualties due to train accidents. Here, this casualty was not due to any accident.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know how many people were arrested, and whether some of the people arrested were interrogated.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No arrests have been made yet. The police are investigating.

Shri S. A. Mehdi: The Deputy Minister said that investigation into the accident is still going on. The Minister says that it was not an accident. I would like to know whether any enquiry is being made.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I am afraid the hon. Member did not follow me. I said it was not a train accident.

Operating Ratio on S. Railway

*48. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation regarding high operating ratio on the Southern Railway has since been carried out;

(b) if so, who conducted the investigation; and

(c) what is the conclusion arrived at?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) In addition to the continuous scrutiny of the financial results of railways, normally exercised, an intensified investigation