

(c) The amount of compensation sanctioned in the case of the one employee who lost his life is Rs. 3,000/- as due under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Is it not a fact that an agreement was reached on the day with the railwaymen providing for payment of compensation and, if so, what was the agreement reached; whether it was regarding payment of compensation equal to that permitted by the Workmen's Compensation Act or some other compensation?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: It is always understood that any compensation to be paid would be in accordance with the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: My question was whether there was any agreement.

Shri Shah nawas Khan: The agreement was to the effect that compensation would be paid in accordance with the Workmen's Compensation Act and that the payment would be made promptly.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether there was also a stipulation in the agreement for providing employment to the son of the deceased and whether anything has been done in that respect?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: As far as I am aware, there was no such undertaking. In hard cases of this nature, the Railways always consider that; but, there was no undertaking given.

Mr. Speaker: Is such an undertaking or agreement valid that his son would be employed irrespective of qualifications?

Shri Sadhan Gupta: That is done on the Railways.

Railway Accident between Delhi Hardinge Bridge and Nizamuddin

*446. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there had been frequent fatal accidents of

trains running over persons between New Delhi Hardinge Bridge and Nizamuddin;

(b) the number of such accidents which occurred during 1956-57; and

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to avoid such accidents?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah nawas Khan): (a) and (b). During the year 1956-57, 3 cases of trains running over trespassers occurred between New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin railway stations.

(c) Fencing is provided at places where it is feasible and trespassing is prevalent. Also State Government authorities who are in direct charge of prevention of trespass, are apprised of the accidents as they occur, so that they may intensify their efforts to prevent trespass.

Shri Radha Raman: The hon. Minister has just now said that fencing is provided in this area to avoid accidents. If that is so, how do these accidents occur? May I also know whether in view of the recurrence of accidents, Government proposes to take some more steps in order to avoid these accidents in future?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: It is impossible for any Government or any organisation to prevent people from being run over (*Interruptions*). I mean to say, people who are determined to be run over. What I mean to say is this. A person who is determined to be run over by the train cannot be prevented from being run over. In this case, out of these three deaths, one gentleman committed suicide and he jumped in front of the running train; no fencing would prevent that sort of a thing. Another death was that of a person who was deaf and dumb and so could not hear the train coming.

Mr. Speaker: Next question. There are as many as 89 questions today.