

put a question to the hon. Minister to get that information or those figures. But this is not the time for correcting an hon. Minister. He may be corrected later on.

Sardar Lal Singh: I am putting this question, for the sake of information only. I want to inquire whether, in case the answer given by the hon. Minister may not be quite correct, it is open to an hon. Member to say that the information given is misleading or wrong.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How is it then that the hon. Member says that such and such a report gives such and such a figure? The hon. Member knows how to put a question.

Shri Namdhari: On a point of order, Sir.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have given my ruling on the point of order already.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Have the Government taken any steps to recognise the great scientific work of Sir T. S. Venkataraman, to whose researches these improved varieties of sugarcane are due, and as a result of whose researches, the Indian sugarcane industry has been saved from a collapse?

Shri Kidwai: I think the mere fact that his name has been mentioned here is a recognition of his services.

DERAILMENT OF KUMAON EXPRESS

*545. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on or about the 25th May, 1953, an attempt was made to derail the Kumaon Express on the Kathgodam-Bareilly Section on the North-Eastern Railway?

(b) How was it detected?

(c) Was there patrolling of the site which is in a belt of dense forest near the Kichar bridge?

(d) Have any investigations started?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and

(b). At about 19-03 hours on 25th May 1953, while No. 212 Down Kumaon Express was on the run between Kichha and Baheri Stations on the Kasganj-Kathgodam Section of the North-Eastern Railway, the Driver felt a severe jerk and stopped the train. On examination of the track, it was found that a dogspike was inserted in the rail joint.

(c) No, but subsequent to this incident partial patrolling was introduced.

(d) The case is under investigation by the Government Railway Police.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Will the Government consider the advisability of strengthening the patrolling arrangements in such belts as fall in dense forest regions?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Government are always giving very deep consideration to matters concerning the safety of the railway lines.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. A. M. Thomas.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: After this incident, will the Government strengthen the patrolling.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order I have called Mr. A. M. Thomas.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I enquire whether investigations have been made into this accident, and if so whether they have disclosed that this was part of a general subversive plan, or only a stray incident?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No regular inquiry into this incident was held. But from the report of our district officer there, it appears to be a case of sabotage.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether in such cases, patrolling is done by the railwaymen themselves, or by the police and the railwaymen together?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The patrolling is done by the railwaymen on trolleys, and sometimes also by the local civil police.