

that on the 14th of November, 1953, the Howrah-Delhi Mail was attacked at Khaga Railway Station and if so, who were the culprits?

(b) Is it a fact that many of the passengers were attacked?

(c) What was the total loss suffered by Government on account of this attack?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes. A mob of about 200 students stoned the train.

(b) Seven passengers and three Railway servants viz., the Driver, the first Fireman and the Guard of the train, received minor injuries.

(c) About Rs. 700.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether Government took any steps to find out whether any of these offenders are habitual offenders?

Shri Alagesan: The police have taken action, and arrested nine persons, but we have no information as to whether they were habitual offenders or not.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether any of the victims made any representation to Government to any loss of their property or something of that nature?

Shri Alagesan: They sustained minor injuries, and they were treated; and thereafter they proceeded on their journey.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: May I know the number of attacks on passengers in mails and other trains, and the steps that Government have taken to stop them?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a general question.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: My first question is in regard to the number of....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question relates only to one train. The hon. Member wants to know generally in the case of all trains. If the hon.

Minister is willing to answer, I have no objection.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: It is a very important question, and no satisfactory answer is given, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question is related to only one incident, and its scope cannot be extended to cover hundred other incidents.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: This is a very important question, and a satisfactory answer is expected of the hon. Minister.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may put down a question more comprehensive than this, because in answer to a single question, the hon. Minister cannot be expected to answer other questions.

Shri G. P. Sinha: May I know whether some of the students also participated in this attack?

Shri Alagesan: Actually it was a group of about 200 students. It is highly unfortunate that our young men should indulge in such things.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What was the method of attack, and what did they attack with?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): They attacked the trains with stones.

GOLDEN ROCK RAILWAY COLONY

***1015. Shri Veeraswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the house rent has been increased in Golden Rock Railway Colony on the Southern Railway and if so, why?

(b) What were the rates of rent previously and what are the rates of rent fixed now for different types of quarters?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes. The assessed rents have been increased as a result of implementation of Government Railways' Rent

Rules. The actual recovery will, however, be limited to 10 per cent. of the employees' emoluments.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 70.]

Shri Veeraswamy: In view of the fact that the salaries of the railway staff and the wages of the railway labourers have not been increased, but the rent has been increased, may I know whether the Ministry is reconsidering the matter, so as to withdraw the orders?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): The salaries of the workers have been considerably increased.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members want only to put questions, and not to hear answers.

Shri L. B. Shastri: As regards the increase in rent, we have taken that decision, because we have to bring about a uniformity in the rents charged from all employees.

Shri Veeraswamy: Is the hon. Minister aware that the workers of the Golden Rock Railway Colony attended work half an hour late on 26th November 1953, as a protest against the increase in rent?

Shri L. B. Shastri: It was very incorrect on their part to have come late and delayed attending the workshop.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether any representation was made on behalf of the workers of Golden Rock Railway workshop, and if so, what is the result?

Shri L. B. Shastri: We received a representation, but as I said just now, we cannot accept their demand.

Shri B. S. Murthy: On what basis is the increase in rent fixed, and on what basis is the uniformity insisted upon?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. We should not go into arguments over this matter.

Shri Nanadas: May I know the additional facilities provided for the workers, as a result of the increase in rent for the quarters?

Shri L. B. Shastri: They will be provided with railway quarters as we have on the railways.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether it is correct on the part of Government to increase the rents six-fold?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Their pay scales have also increased, and in some cases perhaps more than that.

TUBE-WELLS

***1017. Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to spend rupees twenty-four crores during the next three years on the construction of tube-wells?

(b) What is the number of tube-wells to be constructed?

(c) In which States will these be constructed?

(d) Will the construction work be done through the State Governments by advancing them loans for the purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes.

(b) Production wells 2,650.

Exploratory wells 350.

(c) 2,650 wells will be located in U.P., Punjab, Bihar and PEPSU, while the 350 Exploratory wells will be in the States of Madras, West Bengal, Punjab, U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, Bombay, Kutch, Saurashtra, Orissa, Bihar, Assam, Travancore-Cochin, Rajasthan and PEPSU.

(d) All the production wells will be constructed by State Governments con-