

## GUNTUR RAILWAY STATION

\*1173. **Shri S. V. L. Narasimham:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the question of widening the subways under the Railway lines on the East of the Eastern Cabin of Guntur Railway Station, so as to provide for two way traffic; and

(b) when the work will commence?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to widen two bridges, one on the Guntakal-Bezawada Metre Gauge Line and the other on the Guntur-Tenali Broad Gauge Line, near Guntur Railway station.

(b) After the Municipality communicate their approval to the plans and estimate and deposit their share of the estimated cost.

## ACCIDENTS AT SONEPUR RAILWAY STATION

\*1174. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of accidents take place every year at Sonepur Railway Station on the North Eastern Railway;

(b) the number of persons who died or received serious injury while crossing the Railway yard at Sonepur in 1952 and 1953 (upto October); and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) The number of accidents which occurred at Sonepur Railway Station was 20 in 1952 and 15 in 1953 (upto 31st October).

(b) Three died in 1952 and two in 1953 (upto 31st October). No one was seriously injured.

(c) The casualties, referred to in the reply to part (b), occurred as a result of trespass. The Railway Administration has been asked to determine, in consultation with local civil authorities, ways and means to eliminate trespassing.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Are Government aware that there is no other way to the south from the railway station and people have to cross the railway line?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** We have a proposal to put up a foot-over-bridge and that is under consideration. When the situation promises, we will construct the foot over-bridge.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** How long will it take to put up the over-bridge there?

**Mr. Speaker:** He said a foot over-bridge.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** He said that a foot over-bridge is under consideration. How long will it take to put up that?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** So far no definite date has been fixed. As soon as our financial situation improves, we will put it up.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Is it a fact that a relation of some of the railway officials working at the Sonepur station was also involved in this incident?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** Sir, the relatives of railway employees are not immune from railway accidents.

**Mr. Speaker:** The point seems to be this. The hon. Minister replied that there were trespassers. The point is whether the relations of railway officials were considered as trespassers.

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** A young boy who was the son of the station master, was walking carelessly on the railway track and he was run over.