

that the Madras tax is fairly high and so they wanted that the ceiling should be placed somewhere below the Madras tax.

BUDDHA JAYANTI

*974 **Shri Veeraswamy**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Grand Trunk Express and other Mail Trains will be stopped at Sanchi in connection with the Buddha Jayanti celebrations?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): Yes, if the traffic justifies.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know whether, if the traffic justifies, the Grand Trunk Express and other mail trains will be stopped at Sanchi from the beginning of the month of May?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: They will be stopped when the Buddha Jayanti is celebrated.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether any concession will be given to travellers who attend this Buddha Jayanti?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: Concession will be allowed to the foreign tourists.

Shri Veeraswamy: In view of the fact that passengers have to alight at Bhilsa on this side and at Bhopal on the other to go to Sanchi, why should not the trains be stopped to enable the passengers to go straight to Sanchi?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The answer is that the trains will be stopped when it is found necessary, because it will not be that the Buddha Jayanti will be celebrated at that particular place throughout the year. It may be for a few days. On those appointed days certainly the trains can be stopped. There is no difficulty about it.

KANDLA PORT

*975. **Shri Telkikar**: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the money so far spent on the Railway line that connects the Kandla port with the North?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): The Kandla Port is now linked to the main railway line to the North by the Kandla-Deesa Railway link. The total expenditure incurred on the construction of the link is approximately Rs. 6.35 crores.

Shri Telkikar: May I know the monthly average income from this line?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I shall require notice for that.

Shri T. N. Singh: In regard to these constructions, there were some enquiries into the conduct of certain officers. May I know whether any action has been taken against them?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): Perhaps the hon. Member is referring to some of the officers against whom an enquiry was being made. They belong to Saurashtra, but that enquiry has almost finished and some cases are still pending with the Union Public Service Commission.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this amount includes the modern equipment that is to be installed at the port?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: This question related to the railway lines, not to the port.

WAGONS FOR JUTE TRANSPORT

*978. **Shri P. G. Sen**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the inadequate supply of wagons to the jute centres of Purnea District, Bihar have caused the fall of local jute prices there in this season by Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per maund of jute; and