

Tata-Amritsar Express

235. SHRI SHEO SAMPAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tata Amritsar Express does not stop at Mahuariya in District Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh and the people of Mahauria have to face great inconvenience due to non-availability of this facility;

(b) whether this train runs every alternate day and not daily;

(c) whether there is any proposal to run this train daily and make arrangements for its stopping at Mahuariya to give relief to the people; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE):

(a) to (d). 161/162 Tata-Amritsar Express is not scheduled to stop at Mahuariya station. Increasing the stoppages of this Express train will not be in keeping with the need to continue this as a fast express train for through passengers. 161/162 Tata-Amritsar Expresses are at present running four times a week. Increase in the frequency of these trains to daily service is not feasible at present due to constraints of resources and lack of line capacity on some of the sections enroute. The matter would, however, be reviewed when further facilities become available.

O. & N.G.C. Deal with Hungary for Oil Exploration

236. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and natural Gas Commission has selected Hungary to undertake Oil exploration in Ramshahar, Himachal Pradesh on a contract drilling basis; and

(b) if so, what are the terms and conditions of the deal?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Oil and natural Gas Commission has entered into a service contract with CHEMOKOMPLEX of Hungary in March, 1977 for drilling Ramshahar well.

(b) Main terms and conditions are:

(i) The Contractor will depute an agreed number of technicians for drilling the well.

(ii) The Contractor will be paid as remuneration for each day of operation, Rs. 18000 for a minimum period of 100 days.

(iii) The ONGC will make available on site one drilling rig with all necessary equipment and materials.

(iv) Contractor will hand over all the data on the well to ONGC.

Steps to reduce over-crowding in Trains

237. DR. BIJOY MONDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to provide necessary accommodation in second class compartments for reducing over-crowding and ensure at least one seat to each ticket holder;

(b) what are the reasons that booking offices are allowed to sell tickets of the second class in excess of the sitting accommodation in each train; and

(c) what improvement he proposes to introduce in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE):

(a) Periodical census of occupation of all non-suburban passenger carrying trains is taken on the Railways twice a year to assess the extent of occupation in each train and on the basis of results of the censuses and

having regard to the availability of requisite resources, steps have been taken to introduce additional trains and also to extend the runs and augment the loads of existing trains to eliminate overcrowding and meet the requirements of passenger traffic on different routes. This is a continuing process. On all long distance Mail/Express trains, reserved accommodation is provided in all classes of travel. The entire accommodation in some selected Mail/Express long distance trains is reserved and every passenger has a reserved seat/berth.

(b) Issue of unreserved rail tickets cannot be correlated with the availability of accommodation in trains at various points. In the event of accommodation not being available in the train, however, passengers can surrender the tickets and get full refund thereon.

(c) Efforts are made to reduce the gap between demand and supply by providing more accommodation as indicated in (a) above.

पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के अधिकारियों के अष्ट तथा अनियमित कार्य

238. श्री हरिकेश बहादुर : क्या रेल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गोरखपुर से प्रकाशित होने वाले हिन्दी साप्ताहिक "जनस्वर" के दिनांक 2 अप्रैल, 10 अप्रैल, 17 अप्रैल, 1 मई, 8 मई तथा 22 मई के अंकों में पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के दो अधिकारियों के अष्ट तथा अनियमित कार्यों तथा इस रेलवे में व्याप्त अष्टाचार का समाचार प्रकाशित हुआ था ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या रेल प्रशासन ने प्रकाशित आरोपों के बारे में कोई जांच कराई है ; और

(ग) यदि आरोप सही है तो उन अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

रेल मंत्री (प्रो० मधु बडवते) : (क) जी हाँ। 'जनस्वर' नाम की एक स्थानीय हिन्दी साप्ताहिक पत्रिका ने 2 अप्रैल, 10 अप्रैल, 17 अप्रैल, 1 मई, 8 मई और 22 मई के अपने अंकों में पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के कुछ अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध आरोप लगाये हैं और यह भी लिखा है कि उक्त रेलवे में अष्टाचार फैला हुआ है। इन रिपोर्टों में किसी अधिकारी विशेष के नाम का उल्लेख नहीं किया गया है किन्तु कुछ रिपोर्टों में कुछ पदनामों का उल्लेख किया गया है।

(ख) इन आरोपों के सम्बन्ध में 'जनस्वर' के सम्पादक से और अधिक जानकारी प्राप्त करने के लिए रेलवे के मतकंता विभाग द्वारा अनेक प्रयास किये गये किन्तु कोई मफलता नहीं मिली है। इस सम्बन्ध में 8 बार प्रयत्न करने के बावजूद 'जनस्वर' नामक पत्रिका के मालिक से सम्पर्क स्थापित न हो सका फिर भी मतकंता मंगठन द्वारा, इन रिपोर्टों में उल्लिखित मन्यापनीय आरोपों के सम्बन्ध में, आगे जांच की जा रही है। इस सम्बन्ध में अभी कोई और रहस्योद्घाटन करना उपयुक्त न होगा क्योंकि ऐसा करने से जांच में कठिनाई उत्पन्न हो सकती है।

(ग) अभी प्रश्न नहीं उठता। इस सम्बन्ध में आगे की कार्यवाही इस समय की जा रही जांच के परिणामों पर निर्भर करेगी।