

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, July 14, 1992/ Asadha 23, 1914
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE
(Dumdum): What happened to the Action
Taken Report on Ayodhya? (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday the hon. Minister
of Home Affairs had made a statement in the
House, but we would like a full-fledged dis-
cussion on Ayodhya issue. I would like to
submit that all the members are agitated,
therefore you should hold that discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall start that dis-
cussion today and a supplementary list will
be issued.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr.
Speaker, Sir, seven persons have been killed

days. We should Adjourn the House to dis-
cuss this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no.

SHRIGUMAN MAL LODHA: You should
consider whether it should be discussed
today or tomorrow. You may consider it
whenever you like.

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Sheela
Gautam.

11.02 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Losses Suffered by Railways

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*81. SHRIMATI SHEETAGAUTAM:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the MINISTER OF RAILWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) the extent of losses suffered by the
Railways from April 1, 1991 to June 30, 1992
due to shortfall in freight, passenger traffic,
damage caused to railway property in differ-
ent parts of the country due to agitations,
inflation and increase in operational ex-
penses; and

taken by the Government in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The position of earnings and expenses is available upto May, 1992. There is no shortfall in earnings for the period from April 1, 1991 to May 31, 1992 in comparison with budget/revised estimates for 1991-92 and the proportionate budget for April and May, 1992. Similarly, there has also been no excess in ordinary Working Expenses during this period.

Loss due to damage to railway property on account of agitation is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Does not arise. However, the performance of the Railways is monitored continuously.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister said that there has been no excess in ordinary working expenses. I would like to know the total expenses incurred under this head. The hon. Minister has not laid the details on the Table of the House and did not say anything about it. Alongwith this when there is no decrease in railway earnings then why the railway system and its maintenance are so miserable? For example even the number of beds rolls has been reduced in the Ganga-Jamuna Express. When there is no decrease in the earning, why the Government is reducing other facilities?

[English]

SHRIMALLIKARJUN: As per the Budget Estimates, revenue earnings for freight traffic were fixed for 335 million tonnes in the financial year 1991-92, where as we have

achieved 337.98 million tonnes. Similarly, target from passenger transportation were fixed at 4049.16 millions in revised estimates and this has also been achieved. So far as the budget performance for the period April 91 to May '92 is concerned, while we were expecting a freight target of Rs. 10, 964.75 crore, we were able to achieve Rs. 11, 198.7 crore. Similarly, for passenger traffic, our target was Rs. 4,411.69 crore and we could obtain Rs. 4, 449.75 crore. So, there is an addition of about Rs. 38 crore in passenger traffic earnings and Rs. 225 crore in freight movement, as compared to the revised budget estimates. So far as ordinary working expenses are concerned, from April 1991 to May 1992, the target fixed was Rs. 10,993.16 crore; whereas we could spend only Rs. 10,924.62 crore thereby saving about Rs. 68.54 crore

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked the hon. Minister why the number of beds rolls has been reduced in Ganga-Jamuna train, which has been running for a long time. But the hon. Minister has not replied that point. there is no A.C. facility in that train. You can yourself imagine the discomfort of the passengers of that train, and in this regard also the hon. Minister has not given any reply.

My second supplementary is that the incidents of theft in the trains are increasing day by day and very convenient modes of committing thefts have been devised. We also travel. I give you an example.

MR. SPEAKER: No example, please you may ask a question

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I give you a pretty but a very interesting example of committing theft in the most easy manner. These people board Prayagraj Express or Allahabad Express

with a big box and slowly put small boxes in that big box and get down from the train. They possess full tickets and they are educated. They are in league with the police. Now-a-days such complaints are on the increase.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think it comes out of the question. This is about the financial aspect.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister is not satisfactory. Since it has been mentioned in the reply that there is no deficit in our Railway budget, I would like to know from the Government whether it has figures of loss of life and property due to the recent accident at Nagpur and the rise recorded in revenue earnings due to increase in freight and fare?

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: As I have already mentioned, at this moment we do not have the correct assessment of the damage caused to the railway property. As soon as it is ready, I will place it on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was asking about the accident and not about the freight..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What you are asking is given in the main reply. Please read that.

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also asked about the accident that took place at Nagpur.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. Please sit down.

I am disallowing the question. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been mentioned that there is no shortfall in earning for the period from 1st April, 1991 to 31st May, 1992. There may not be shortfall in the earnings, but I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what is the net loss or profit in the same period.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that he is calculating.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, as I have already told you, this is the Budget estimate, and against these estimates whether we have earned loss or profit for the year 1991-92, I will tell to the august House later on.

Environmentar impact of Minuig Projects

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*82. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank sponsored a discussion and workshop on environmental impact of mining projects in India;

(b) if so, the details of the nature and the extent of the problem identified;

(c) the suggestions/recommendations made; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOR-