

between Delhi and Kotdwara will be considered alongwith other similar demands as soon as adequate number of Diesel locomotives are available.

Demand for starting a Train from Delhi to Kotdwara

1125. SHRI JAGANNATH SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the long standing demand of the people belonging to Pauri and Chamoli (Garhwal) districts to start a direct train from Delhi to Kotdwara and vice-versa; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to ameliorate the difficulties of passengers of these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) Introduction of a direct train between Delhi and Kotdwara is at present operationally not feasible for want of spare line capacity enroute and due to inadequate terminal facilities at Delhi and Kotdwara.

Burning of Bogies of Kumaon Express

1126. SHRI SHAMBHU NATH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether following the death of student at a flower show at Agra the Kumaon Express was held up at Bichpuri railway station and two bogies set on fire between the night of 12/13th February, 1978;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the damage caused;

(c) whether any police squad was travelling on the train; and

(d) whether the miscreants have been identified and arrested?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) While Kumaon Express was in motion after its scheduled stoppage at Bichpuri Railway Station at 21.55 hrs. on 12-2-1978, the alarm chain was pulled and the train was brought to a halt in front of B.S. Rajput Agricultural College, situated near the track on the east side. About 100/125 persons stated to be students of this college got down from the train and some of them went to the Guard and Engine Crew and did not allow the train to start. They created panic among the passengers who got down from the coaches. The students sprinkled petrol/kerosene oil on 2 coaches Nos. FS 3746 and FCS 3705, set fire to them and ran away. The Fire Brigade from Agra Fort reached the site and brought the fire under control. There was no loss of life nor was there any injury to any of the passengers. Only 2 coaches were involved and burnt. The loss is estimated at Rs 80,000/-. The train suffered a detention of 5.45 hrs. The Government Railway Police Agra Fort has registered a case vide crime no No 25/78 under sections - 1 and 436 IPC and 108 IRA on 13-2-1978.

(c) Two Police Constables of Government Railway Police Agra Fort were escorting the train under reference.

(d) No.

Violation of Companies Act by Ferro Alloys Corporation

1127. SHRI L. L. KAPOOR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ferro Alloys Corporation was found to have violated the mandatory provisions of the Companies Act subjecting them and thereby liable for prosecution;