

Railway Accidents

597. Shri Raghunath Singh : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were two accidents on the 4th November, 1955, one between Shahgarh and Mala and the other between Khudlaspur and Gur Sahaiganj railway stations on the North Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) and (b). Yes; two train accidents occurred on 4th November 1955, viz;

(i) at about 22.15 hours on 4-11-55 while MB 16 Down Goods train was leaving Shahgarh station for Mala on the Lucknow-Bareilly Section of the North Eastern Railway, the engine of the train failed between Home and Outer signals of the station, due to the breakage of the left leading side rod; and

(ii) at about 22.35 hours on 4-11-55 while No. F.C. 8 Down Goods train was running between Khudaganj (and not Khudlaspur as stated in the Question) and Gur Sahaiganj stations on the Fatehgarh-Kanpur Section of the North-Eastern Railway, 10 wagons—7th to 16th from the engine—derailed and capsized and 17th wagon derailed by one rear wheel.

Contributory Health Service Scheme

598. Shri Gidwani : Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the Contributory Health Service Scheme for Central Government employees in Delhi for the period from 1st April to 30th September, 1955; and

(b) the amount received in contribution from the employees during that period?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur) : (a) Rs. 12,89,574-6-8.

(b) Rs. 6,94,275.

Agricultural Labour

599. Shri Mohana Rao : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether Government have received any reports from States about the improvements of the condition of the agricultural labourers as a result of the Five Year Plan and other developmental projects?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) : No specific reports on the subject are available. Government
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propose to undertake an agricultural enquiry in 1956, which will collect data showing the changes that have taken place since the last enquiry in 1950-51.

Laundering of Linen in Western Railway

600. Shri U. M. Trivedi : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that linen in use at all points in Western Railway is sent out for washing to Bombay;

(b) the quantity thereof in use in the Officers' saloons; and

(c) the amount of freight charge incurred in doing ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) to (c). The linen in use on the Western Railway in the Inspection Carriages provided for Railway Officers is generally sent out for washing to the Headquarters stations of the respective carriages. In the case of districts the arrangements for washing the linen are however made locally.

Consequently it is not a fact that linen in use at all points in Western Railway is sent for washing to Bombay. However, linen from Ajmer, used in Metre Gauge Inspection carriages and bed-rolls, is at present sent to Bombay for washing, but this practice would as far as possible be discontinued in the future.

The linen is sent to Bombay on railway account and booked on Free Services Way Bill and as such no amount is charged.

Cultivable Land

601. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what is the extent of land which can be brought under cultivation in sparsely populated States like Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra, and Madhya Bharat and Assam?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) : A statement giving the required information is attached. [See Appendix V, Annexure No. 54].

Maritime Museum

602. Shri M. D. Joshi : Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any maritime museum in India;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to establish one; and

(c) what are the present arrangements for preservation and exhibition of valuable articles of maritime importance for the benefit of nautical students and persons interested in maritime matters?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) Government have no such proposal under consideration.

(c) No special arrangements for the purpose exist at present. However, a few exhibits of maritime interest are preserved in museums in some of the cities. A few articles of maritime importance to nautical students are also on show at the Nautical and Engineering College, Bombay.

Rampur-Haldwani Rail Link

603. Shri B. D. Pande: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state at what stage is the proposal for the construction of a Broad-gauge connection between Rampur and Haldwani?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): A Traffic Survey for a 38 mile long Broad Gauge/Metre Gauge Railway line between Rampur and Lalkua has been sanctioned on 14-9-55 and the Survey is in progress. The question of extending the scope of the Survey from Rampur to Haldwani instead of to Lalkua is being examined.

राजमार्ग पर दुर्घटना

६०४: श्री श्रीका भाई : क्या परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राज मार्ग संख्या ८ के रिखबदेव, उदयपुर सैकशन पर मलवे के नीचे दब कर मिस्त्रियों और श्रमिकों की मृत्यु हुई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो हताहतों की संख्या क्या है; और किस परिस्थिति में दुर्घटना हुई ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Three labourers were killed on 30th April, 1955, while engaged on the work of widening the road in mile 13 furlong 7 of the Udaipur—Rikhabdeb—Kherwara Section of National Highway No. 8. The accident was due to an unexpected landslide.

Bombay Port

605. Shri M. D. Joshi: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the number of country craft visiting Bombay harbour during every fair season;

(b) whether there is any dry-docking arrangement for repairs and cleaning of these crafts in Bombay harbour; and

(c) if not, what other facilities are available to them?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Information regarding the number of sailing vessels which visited the Bombay Harbour has been collected only for one "fair season", viz., the period from September, 1954 to May, 1955. This shows that there were 24,227 visits by sailing vessels to various Bunders in the Bombay Harbour during that period. In addition there were also about 11,800 visits by small creek boats bringing sand.

(b) and (c). There is no dry-dock available for repairs to sailing vessels in the Bombay Harbour but adequate facilities at several bunders including two slipways at Sassoon Dock and Mallet Bunder where sailing vessels can be beached and/or repairs to sailing vessels carried out.

Delhi Road Transport Service

606. Shri Bheekha Bhai: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on all functional occasions on Ramlila Grounds in Delhi the normal bus services are suspended for hours causing inconvenience to passengers; and

(b) if so, the remedies for the situation?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). When functions are held at Ramlila Grounds necessitating the closing of Circular Road to heavy vehicular traffic, the Delhi Transport Service buses are diverted to the nearest convenient road on the instructions of the Delhi Traffic Police. On such occasions the Delhi Transport Services are diverted as follows:—

Route No. Route on which the service is diverted

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 3 | } | From Odeon, via Chelmsford Road-Desh Bandhu Gupta Road (Over Paharganj Railway Bridge) to Ajmeri Gate. |
| 12 | | |
| 4 | } | From Odeon via Rouse Avenue Mirdard Road to Delhi Gate. |
| 17 | | |
| 21 | | |
| 28 | | |