

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):**

(a) Yes.

(b) A large number of accidents were due to failure of engines and rolling stock and cattle run over.

In the case of failure of engines and rolling stock, it may be stated that this Railway had a set back after integration due to the amalgamation of a number of small private railways of the Indian States. The basis of compilation has not always been uniform.

**Railway Delegation to Japan**

\*1025. **Shri D. C. Sharma** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 280 on the 25th July, 1956, and state :

(a) whether the delegation that visited China and Japan to study the functioning of their Railway systems has submitted any report ; and

(b) if so, whether it has been considered ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) :**

(a) The delegation's formal report has not yet been finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

**Trains on Khandwa-Ajmer Lines**

\*1029. **Shri Bheekha Bhai** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 377 on 2nd August, 1956 and state :

(a) whether any train has been started on the Khandwa-Ajmer section of Western Railway; and

(b) if so, how far this has removed overcrowding ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):**

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Casual Leave for Railway Employees**

\*1031. **Shri Dhushiya** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that every station master on the spot is not authorised to grant casual leave to his subordinates on the North Eastern Railway ;

(b) what is the usual practice for applying and granting such leaves, whether by telephone, telegram or by ordinary correspondence ;

(c) whether it is a general complaint that the employees do not get such leaves at the time of their needs; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above is in the affirmative whether Government will alter the methods of grant of casual leave so as to make it more convenient ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport ( Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):**

(a) Yes—only Station Masters in scale of Rs. 200-300 and above are authorised to sanction casual leave to staff under them.

(b) The usual practice is to apply for leave through applications. Sanctions thereto are communication by ordinary correspondence except in cases of emergency when these are communicated by phone or telegram.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

**Family Planning Officer**

\*1032. **Shri Gadilingana Gowd** : Will be Minister of Health be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Family Planning Board has recommended the appointment of a Family Planning Officer in each State ;

(b) if so, whether the recommendation has been accepted by the Union Government; and

(c) the main functions of the above Officer ?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Yes.

(b) The recommendation is under consideration. A decision will be taken in consultation with State Governments.

(c) A statement indicating the main functions of the proposed State Family Planning Officers is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 29].