

**Railway Booking Clerks**

2666. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that illiterate passengers even today form the majority of rail ticket purchasers and majority of the Booking Clerks at the railway station either do not return the change due to them or extract more than is due and thus make Rs. 20 to 30 at the small stations and more than Rs. 100 at the bigger stations ;

(b) whether Railway authorities pay surprise checks to curb this practice ; and

(c) whether Railways propose to limit fraction of a rupee for Railway fares and freight to 50 paise and round off Rs. 19.35 to Rs. 19 and Rs. 19.68 to Rs. 20 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) According to a non-suburban passenger profile survey conducted by Rail Tariff Enquiry Committee in the year 1979 which covered 100% superfast trains, 50 per cent mail/express trains, 20 per cent long-distance passenger trains and 40 per cent short-distance passenger trains, the percentage of illiterate passengers, class-wise, was as follows :

ACC	1st.	1st. class chair car	2-tier AC sleeper	AC Chair Car	Second Class sleeper	Second Class sitting	All classes
—	0.47	0.56	—	0.42	3.47	13.05	7.00

The Railway Board and the Zonal Railways do receive complaints regarding excess charging from passengers by booking clerks but no

information is available in regard to booking clerks making Rs. 20/- to Rs. 30/- at smaller stations and more than Rs. 100/- at bigger stations.

(b) Yes. Surprise checks are conducted by inspectors and officers of Vigilance and Commercial departments to see that excess charging is not done by booking clerks.

(c) With a view to eliminate such problems, the Rounding Off Rule relating to passenger fares is being rationalised with effect from 1-10-81. Freight charges on goods, parcels and luggage traffic are already being rounded-off to the next higher rupee.

**Bihar Shariff Nawada Line**

2667. SHRI KANWAR RAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether government have carried out any survey for connecting Bihar Shariff and Nawada both district headquarters with rail keeping in view of the passenger and goods traffic there; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Bihar Shariff to Rajgir is already an existing B.G. line. No survey has been carried out from Rajgir to Nawada.

(b) Due to paucity of funds.  
**Bandel Katwa Line**

2668. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of representations/memoranda received by Government about the electrification and doubling the Bandel-Katwa line of Eastern Railway;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to fulfil the demands of the people of West Bengal; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) :** (a) A large number of representations and Memoranda have been received.

(b) and (c) These proposals have been examined in details, but the electrification and doubling of the Bandel-Katwa section has not been found justified at present as the traffic density on this section does not justify these heavy investments.

#### **Double Line for Patna-Gaya Route**

2669. **SHRI RAM SWARUP RAM :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce double line on the Patna-Gaya route and also electrify the line, as this route connects South Bihar with the capital of the State (Patna); and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS :** (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) : No, doubling and electrification are generally not justified by increase in passenger traffic only. Goods traffic development on this route will be but small to justify doubling or electrification.

#### **Publishers ascribing books to Central Board of Secondary Education**

2670. **SHRI RASHEED MASOOD :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some publishers in the Capital have been misleading the authorities of schools falling under the Central Board of Secondary Education by printing their own list of books and ascribing these to the Board; and

(b) if so, details thereof and the action taken by Government in the matter ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SMT. SHEILA KAUL) (a) and (b) :** Recently one such case came to the notice of the Central Board of Secondary Education wherein an unidentified agency had circulated a list of books. The list included the names of books prescribed by the Board and published by N. C.E.R.T. and also some books not approved by the Board. Immediately, the schools were cautioned by the Board through a general circular against the issue of a fake list of books by some unscrupulous elements. The schools were advised to use only such books as had been prescribed/recommended by the Board. The Publishers registered with the Board were also duly cautioned to steer clear of such manoeuvrings. The matter was also discussed with the representatives of the Educational Publishers Association.

#### **Railway Bridge at Chhitannighat**

2671. **SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the estimated cost of the Railway Bridge at Chhitannighat at Bagaha connecting U. P. and Bihar ;