

**Review Committee on functioning of National Library, Calcutta**

3722. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Library of Calcutta is managed by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Review Committee was set up for the better functioning and management of the Library; and

(d) if so, facts thereof and how far the recommendations of the Review Committee have been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI-MATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b). The National Library, Calcutta is a subordinate office of the Government of India under the Department of Culture. During 1976, both Houses of Parliament passed the National Library of India Act, 1976 which envisaged an autonomous Board for the National Library, Calcutta; but, during 1977-78, the Janata Government decided not to bring the Act into force and therefore the National Library continues to be a subordinate office of the Department of Culture.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. V. S. Jha was set up by the Government in May, 1968 to review the working of the National Library, Calcutta and to suggest measures for its efficient functioning and further development. This Committee, inter-alia, recommended that the then Advisory Council should be replaced by a Governing Council exercising real authority which means vesting the Governing Council of the National Library, Calcutta with complete autonomy i.e. delegated auto-

nomy. The Government agreeing with most of the recommendations of the Jha Committee, in principle, decided to give the National Library, Calcutta the largest measure of autonomy and accordingly moved the National Library Bill in the Lok Sabha on 18-12-1972. The National Library of India Act, 1976 was enacted and received the assent of the President on 11th June, 1976. The question of bringing the Act into force is now being examined afresh.

**Firing on Indian Workers in Nepal**

3723. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DAN-DAVATE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Indian workers working in Raghupati Jute Mill at Birat Nagar, Nepal were lathi-charged and fired upon on May 4, 1981;

(b) whether it is also a fact that several died in the firing and their dead bodies were not given to their relatives residing in India;

(c) whether it is also a fact that when some workers demonstrated before Jogbani P.S. in India, the S.P. of Purnia District ordered lathi charge and drove all the workers inside Nepal; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Government have seen reports regarding police firing at the Raghupati Jute Mill in Birat Nagar (Nepal) on May 3, 1981. According to these reports, incidents of labour trouble led to the firing. There is no information as to whether there was any lathi charge at the Jute Mill premises on that date.

(b) As reported by the Nepalese authorities to the district administration at Purnia (Bihar), the police

fring resulted in the death of one labourer and injuries to five others. The deceased, Shri Biswanath Ram, had apparently no relative at Jogbari though he was temporarily resident there. The Nepalese authorities have informed us that they handed over the body to the management of the Raghupati Jute Mill who in turn conveyed the news of his death to his relatives. Since the relative took some days to come and as there were no facilities for preservation of dead bodies in Birat Nagar, the body had perforce to be cremated. According to the Nepalese authorities, compensation was paid to the relatives of the deceased and a signed receipt obtained from them.

(c) and (d). According to reports received from the Bihar Government, the death of Shri Biswanath Ram created some tension in Jogbari with several workers of the Jute Mill crossing over to Jogbari. On receipt of this information, the Purnia district authorities proceeded to Jogbari and made necessary arrangements for the maintenance of law and order. The Superintendent of Police, Purnia, has however, denied ordering any lathi charge on the workers to drive them back into Nepal.

#### More Platforms at Howrah Station

3724. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many trains have to wait outside Howrah station for want of a berth;

(b) if so, whether Government would take urgent steps to increase the number of platforms at the Howrah station; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND  
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIA-

MENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Sometimes, trains have to wait outside Howrah station for want of a platform in case trains are running out of path.

(b) and (c). A new Coaching Terminal at Padmapukur has been planned. The completion will synchronise with the construction of Second Hooghly Bridge. This will ease the position at Howrah considerably.

Number of persons trained every year by the Merchant Navy Establishment

3725. SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) how many training establishments are there to train Merchant-Navy Officers and ratings;

(b) how many are trained every year from these establishments;

(c) how many are still unemployed among those trained; and

(d) what efforts are made to get employment for them?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) There are six Merchant Navy Training Establishment for Officers and Ratings. Out of these six, three are imparting training to Cadets/Officers for service as Navigating and Engineering Officers in the Merchant Navy and the other three institutions are giving training to young boys for service as Deck and Engine Room Ratings on board the ships.

(b) 470 Cadets/Officers are trained every year for service as Navigating and Engineering Officers in the Merchant Navy and 640 young boys are trained every year for service as Deck and engine Room Ratings on board the ships.

(c) So far as the trained cadets of T. S. Rajendra and D.M.E.T. es-