

Japan, will it not be advisable to pilot such a scheme; or, will the Government give licence to the private sector to import such machinery?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We will consider the question of giving a licence, if there is anybody coming forward for that purpose.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Has the Ministry got any technical or other general information with regard to this woolenised jute?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** A scheme worked by the Refugee Rehabilitation on an experimental plant in the Technological Research Laboratories has terminated on 1st April, 1958. There are certain experiments which are directed towards solving the problems of dyeing, poor wash fastness of the dye and softer feel etc. They are continuing.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Do Government consider the proposal of investigating the use of this material?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Certain experiments, as I said, are going on.

#### Averted Train Accident

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\*1941. { Shri U. L. Patil:  
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of a rail crack being detected in time, the Up Calcutta Mail from Amritsar, on the 12th April, 1958, escaped a serious mishap;

(b) whether any sabotage was suspected;

(c) whether any enquiry has been made into the incident;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswami):** (a) At about 8:30 hours on 12-4-58, while the Keyman on duty was patrolling the track on his usual morning round, between Butari and Jandiala stations on the Jullundur City-Amritsar Section of the Northern Railway, a rail fracture was detected by him at mile 288|17. He immediately protected the line by placing detonators and No. 5 Up Howrah-Amritsar which was coming from Butari side, stopped short of the fractured point.

(b) No.

(c) to (e). The fracture appears to have been caused due to a flaw in the metal. Investigations into the structure of metal etc. are being progressed.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** On the last occasion I asked whether the Railway Board have set up their own special unit to enquire about accidents and possible accidents. What I want to know is whether these kinds of minor accidents which could result in major accidents are being just shifted and left to Divisional Headquarters for enquiry, or, whether responsible members of the Railway Board make regular enquiries of even these trifling accidents which could result in major accidents?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** The point about this particular question is about the averted accident. The flaw is sometimes due to the fatigue in metals, and it could occur suddenly. What happens is, we have got regular inspections. The Permanent Way Inspector does it every week. The special Permanent Way Inspector does it once in two or three weeks. The keyman does it once every day on foot. With all these, if the flaw does happen, well, we have got the keymen who save us from disasters.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** The hon. Minister has not replied to my question. My question is whether a responsible body like the Railway Board Headquarters in India goes into these small accidents.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** I want notice.

**Shri Dasappa:** May I know whether information could be furnished as to when exactly these rails were laid there? How long is it, and how old are they?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** I am sorry I have not got the information. If a separate question is put, I shall answer.

#### Silghat Railway Station Incident

\*1943. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that windows of Railway Station were broken and platform lamps smashed on the 28th March, 1958 at Silghat Railway Station on the North Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the causes for the same; and

(c) whether any special trains were run on that day for Ashokastami Festival?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (**Shri S. V. Ramaswami**): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This happened after the Railway staff prevented some passengers from travelling without tickets on foot-boards and roofs of coaches.

(c) No, Sir, but two trains running between Chaparmukh-Silghat Stations were strengthened by three additional class III Coaches each.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether it is not a fact that this accident occurred because there was not enough room for the passengers in the train?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** No, Sir. It was because they wanted to travel without tickets and there was some checking.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether in future at least, on special festival occasions, special trains will be run in this area?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** It all depends upon the needs of the situation and on the occasion.

**Shri Tangamani:** In his reply to part (b) of the question the hon. Minister said that because the passengers were travelling on foot-boards, they were prevented from....

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister said that they travelled on foot-boards not for want of accommodation but to avoid purchase of tickets. Those people would not get into the train, because the moment the inspector comes in they will jump out. Therefore they travel on the foot-boards.

**Shri Tangamani:** When the accident happened, more than 100 passengers were there because they could not get accommodation.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the hon. Minister does not admit that it is not for want of accommodation but for want of tickets....

**Shri Liladhar Kotoki:** In view of the fact that there is great rush of passengers from the Chaparmukh, Nowgong side to Silghat station on Ashokastami festival, will the Government consider the necessity of providing special trains on such occasions?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** I have already answered the question on this, put by the hon. Member from the other side. It all depends upon the occasion and the demands.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether there was some festival in the neighbouring area during this period when this accident took place—on the 28th March, 1958?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** I require notice.

**Shri Tangamani:** In answer to part (c) of the question, whether any special trains were run on that day for Ashokastami festival, the hon. Minister said, "No, Sir". Now he wants notice to find out whether there was any festival.