

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.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: The answer is that two trains running between Chaparmukh-Silghat stations were strengthened by three additional class III coaches each.

Shri Tangamani: That is why I wanted to know whether there was a festival and whether they were going to run special trains. He could have said, "No."

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member referred to festivals and the running of special trains on those days. What more festivals does he want?

Shri Tangamani: This particular festival.

Mr. Speaker: He admits that when this festival took place there, no special trains were run on that day—for the Ashokastami festival. What is the other festival that the hon. Member has in mind?

Shri Tangamani: This particular festival.

Mr. Speaker: It is there in the question itself. I am not able to follow the question.

Shri Tangamani: When there was a supplementary from my hon. Friend on the other side asking whether special trains will be run for this particular festival, the hon. Minister said that he wanted notice.

Mr. Speaker: He has already answered that. He read the answer again.

Shri Prabhat Kar: The hon. Minister said that two third class bogies have been attached to this particular train running between Chaparmukh and Silghat stations. The very fact that two extra bogies were attached to the train is an admission that there is a special circumstance, and that is why the question has been put. May I know whether the Government are contemplating to provide a special train for that?

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know if the Government were aware of the public representations made to the

Railway for the introduction of special trains on the Ashokastami day on that line?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: If proper representations are made, we shall certainly consider them.

Shri P. C. Borooah: There were public representations made to the Railway for running special trains on that line on that day. May I know whether the Government were aware of that?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: I require notice.

Mr. Speaker: Merely because of representation, are the railway authorities entitled to look into it and find out whether the attachment of two bogies are enough or a special train has to be provided for? Next question.

(सबकिस-तिब्बत र्सीमा सड़क)

*१९४४. { श्री भक्त बर्मान :
श्री नेकराम नेगी :

नया परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री १५ मई, १९५६ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २२२३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सिक्किम की राजधानी गंगटोक में तिब्बत की सीमा तक एक मोटर सड़क के निर्माण में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ख) इस सड़क के निर्माण पर भारत सरकार द्वारा अब तक कितना धन व्यय किया जा चुका है ; और

(ग) इस सड़क का निर्माण कब तक पूरा हो जाने की आशा है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) २० मील तक काम पूरा हो चुका है। बाकी ६ मील के फासले तक काम की प्रगति लगभग ४० प्रतिशत है।