

Failure of Engines

1194. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of engines which failed during 1957 and 1958 month-wise at Bhatinda and Fazilka Station on the Northern Railway;

(b) the reasons for such failure; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent failure in future?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Only one at Bhatinda on 6/7th August 1957 during the period 1st January, 1957 to 31st October 1958, and none at Fazilka Station.

(b) Due to bad coal.

(c) Every case of failure is investigated and where bad coal has been established as the cause—

(i) the matter is taken up with Deputy Controller of Coal, if the supply was below quality, or

(ii) staff responsible on the railway taken up if it was a case of loading rejected coal, or coal mixed with ashes and earth, or coal meant for inferior service.

Late Running of Trains

1195. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times during 1958 when trains from Delhi to Ferozpur on Northern Railway ran late;

(b) reasons for such irregularities; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the situation?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) During

the period from 1st January to 28th November, 1958, Nos. 37 Up Punjab Mail, 341 Up and 369 Up Passenger trains ran late on 205 occasions out of 987 occasions.

(b) The running of the above-noted trains between Delhi and Ferozepore was comparatively satisfactory during the period from 1st January to 31st May, 1958. There was, however, some deterioration in the punctuality performance from June to November, 1958 mainly due to—

(i) Unprecedented heavy rains and floods causing breaches and consequent cautious driving in the interest of safety;

(ii) Overhauling of West Cabin at Delhi Mail during October, 1958; and

(iii) Operational causes, such as, accidents, displaced crossings, engines losing time etc.

(c) Every effort is being made to improve the performance of these trains. The performances of Nos. 341 Up and 369 Up Passenger trains have improved in November, 1958.

Sugar Production

1196. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a fall in the production of sugar in the factories in the state of Punjab in 1956-57, 1957-58 season as compared to the sugar produced in 1939-40 season; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The production of sugar in the factories in the Punjab during 1956-57 and 1957-58 seasons was substantially higher than in 1939-40 season. From 16,299 tons in 1939-40, it rose to 57,767 tons in 1956-57 and 82,358 tons in 1957-58.