

Shri Dasappa: Its present position does not seem to be very happy. The last time it earned a profit in 1959-60. But it is a matter between the railway owners and the State Government, as the trouble seems to have arisen because of competition from road transport. The local Government seems to have licensed a number of vehicles and the Railway is not happy about it.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि सादरा-महानपुर लाइट रेलवे को भारत सरकार अपने हाथ में लेने का विचार कर रही है? यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

Shri Dasappa: I have already answered that that question has not arisen now. It may arise later on, but just now it is not before the Government.

Collection of Motor Vehicle Taxes

*623. **Shri Mansinh P. Patel:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Transport Development Council has recommended a single agency for collecting various taxes on motor vehicles; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this matter?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the Sabha

STATEMENT

(a) Yes.

(b) The State Governments concerned, viz., Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Maharashtra, Mysore, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, were requested to implement the recommendation of the Transport Development Council. According to the information available at present, there is already a single

agency for the collection of the motor vehicles tax and taxes on passengers and goods carried by road in Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madras, Mysore and Uttar Pradesh. The matter is under the consideration of the Governments of Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Punjab. The Government of Assam have stated that there are practical difficulties in implementing the recommendation, as tax also levied in Assam on goods carried by water. The Government of Madhya Pradesh have not yet communicated their decision and the question is being pursued with them.

Shri Mansinh P. Patel: In view of the fact that some States have found it difficult to accept this because there are taxes on waterways also, how is Government going to make all the States accept this uniform system of a single agency?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The idea is that, in order to remove the inhibitory factors that operate against the smooth flow of road transport traffic, we should try to minimise the number of places and posts and agencies where taxes have to be paid, and with that end in view, it was considered desirable by the Transport Development Council, on which are represented the Ministers of the various State Governments, that so far as possible there should be a single collecting agency for as many taxes on motor vehicles as possible, and that is exactly what is being done.

Shri Mansinh P. Patel: There are different rates of passenger and goods taxes in the different States. May I know whether Government has anything in mind to find out a uniform pattern for all the different States?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The idea is not for uniformity of taxes so much. They may differ from State to State. The idea is to have a single collecting agency, although we would very

much like to have uniformity in rates of taxation also.

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: May I know by what time the recommendation of the TDC will be implemented throughout the country?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It requires the solution of many complicated problems, particularly what authority would collect. There are some States which have already undertaken that. Others may follow suit in course of time.

श्री कछवाय : हाल ही में मध्य प्रदेश में बसों के किराये ७० प्रतिशत बढ़ा दिये गए हैं, जिसके कारण जनता में बहुत असन्तोष है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार को इस बारे में कोई शिकायतें मिली हैं, यदि हाँ, तो वह किरायों को कम करने के बारे में में क्या उपाय कर रही है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो अलग सवाल है। यह सवाल कनेक्शन ग्रॉफ मोटर टैक्सिक के बारे में है।

Imphal-Dimapur National Highway

*624. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges destroyed by the hostile Nagas on the Imphal-Dimapur National Highway during the period from 1st April, 1963 to the end of February, 1964;

(b) how far the damaged bridges have been rebuilt or repaired; and

(c) steps taken to prevent recurrence of the damages?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) One bridge of 30 ft. span at mile 44; and one span of 60 ft. of another bridge of such 4 spans at mile 91.

(b) (i) A temporary bridge and subway at mile 44 was provided the same day and traffic allowed to pass.

(ii) A temporary diversion on down stream of the main bridge at mile 91 was completed on the next day of the incident, and vehicular traffic and convoy moved along the diversion uninterrupted. The erection of bailey bridging on the damaged span was later completed on the 7th February, 1964.

(c) (i) Bridge No. 1 is situated in Nagaland where all important bridges in the area are being guarded. The damaged bridge is a minor bridge and it is not possible to guard all such minor bridges.

(ii) Bridge at mile 91 lies in Manipur State and arrangements to guard important bridges have been made after this incident.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether it is not a fact that most of the bridges destroyed are located very close to the security posts; if so, why such damage to the bridges could not be averted?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is essentially a security question, and sometimes, despite the best efforts, maybe somebody succeeds in committing mischief.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether Government has tried to find out the sources of the supply of the explosives used for the destruction of the bridges; if so, how far Government have succeeded?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The question has to be addressed to a different Ministry.

Stamp in honour of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

*625. **Shri Hari Vishnu Karath:** Will the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that the 55 nP stamp issued on the