

**Assault on Passengers in Train at  
Dhrangadhra (Western Railway)**

272. SHRI JAI SINGH :  
SHRI HARDYAL DEVGUN :  
SHRI YAJNA DATT  
SHARMA :  
SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN :  
SHRI SAMAR GUHA :  
SHRI RAM CHARAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 20th May, 1969 some military men who entered the compartment of a train at Dhrangadhra on the Western Railway assaulted some passengers; and

(b) if so, the details of the incident;

(c) whether his Ministry has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Defence to see that military men, who are provided with arms, do not involve themselves in such incidents;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Defence Ministry and whether the correspondence, if any, that might have taken place would be laid on the Table; and

(e) the action taken against the culprits and the steps taken by Government to provide protection to Railway passengers?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Yes. The incident occurred on 19.5.1969, and not on 20.6.1969.

(b) On 19.5.69, one Shri Jaydevbhai of Halvad, with member of his family, boarded a third class compartment of train No. 121 Down at Dhrangadhra railway station. The train started from Dhrangadhra at 20. 12 hrs. As the train pulled out of the railway station, two persons (who were military sepoy in plain clothes) entered the compartment and started passing vulgar remarks at the ladies. When others protested, one of them whipped out a country made pistol and opened fire causing injuries to Shri Jaydevbhai on his left hand and two fingers were cut off. When the other members of the family tried to catch him, the other assailant assaulted them with a knife causing serious injuries to his sister and simple injuries to

three daughters of Jaydevbhai. During the incident, the alarm chain was pulled and the train was brought to a halt. The Guard and one Police Constable on duty were informed of the incident. In the meanwhile one accused had slipped away, but the other was caught by the family. The Police Constable on duty took charge of the accused. Subsequently the second accused was also taken into custody by the military authorities.

(c) As it was a country-made pistol, illicitly in the possession of the accused and not a Government fire arm supplied to military personnel, the question of taking up the matter with the Defence Ministry does not arise.

(d) The question does not arise.

(e) An offence was registered at Surendranagar Railway Police Station *vide* C. R. No. 17/69 u/ss.307, 324, 354 and 34 IPC, and Section 25 (a) of the Arms Act, against the two accused persons. The case is being tried by a Court Martial.

As far as possible, night passenger trains are being escorted by Government Railway Police personnel for the safety of passengers.

**Supply of Machinery to Bokaro Steel  
Plant**

273. SHRI JAI SINGH :  
SHRI HARDYAL DEVGUN :  
SHRI YAJNA DATT  
SHARMA :  
SHRI R. K. AMIN :  
SHRI MEETHA LAL MEENA :  
SHRI H. AJMAL KHAN :  
SHRI TULSIDAS DASSAPPA :  
SHRI D. N. PATODIA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the delivery schedule is not being adhered to by the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi and by the suppliers in the private sector, which may lead to further revision of scheduled target of the Bokaro Steel Plant; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). A contract has been signed by Bokaro Steel Ltd., with H. E. C. on 9th April, 1969, which clearly stipulates the delivery schedule in respect of plant and equipment, and structurals to be supplied to Bokaro Steel Ltd., Supplies against this contract have so far been satisfactory. Regarding equipment to be procured from the private sector, some difficulties about the timely supply of refractories by indigenous manufacturers had come to notice and imports of about 18,000 tonnes have been allowed to keep to the schedule. The matter is being kept under constant review by Bokaro Steel Ltd. and corrective action taken, where necessary.

**File regarding resumption of Cantonment  
Land held by Bhargava Brothers  
of Lucknow**

274. SHRI JAI SINGH :  
SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN :  
SHRI YAJNA DATT  
SHARMA :

Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any investigations has been made as to how the file pertaining to the resumption of Cantonment land held by Bhargava Brothers of Lucknow reached his Ministry; and

(b) if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (a) The file relating to the resumption of cantonment land held by Bhargava Brothers of Lucknow was received by the Law Ministry from the Ministry of Defence for advice on several occasions since the year 1967 and hence the question of making any investigation as to how the file reached this Ministry does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

**Smooth functioning of Durgapur Steel Plant**

275. SHRI D. N. PATODIA :  
SHRI B. R. DASCHOWDHURY :  
SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR :

DR. RANEN SEN :  
SHRI DEVEN SEN :  
SHRI RABI RAY :  
SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :  
SHRI N. K. SOMANI :  
SHRI BHOLA NATH MASTER :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether he held a series of discussions with the Chief Minister of West Bengal, the management and the labour representatives of the Durgapur Steel Plant in order to ensure a smooth functioning of the Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions and to what extent the discussions have helped to improve the situation in the Plant; and

(c) whether the loss per day on the Plant has been reduced as compared to the position three months back?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) and (b). During the course of my visit to Calcutta and Durgapur in the early part of June, I held general discussions with the Deputy Chief Minister of West Bengal, the Management and some labour representatives of the Durgapur Steel Plant so as to understand the problem and to solicit the assistance of the State Government.

(c) The average loss in the 2nd quarter of the calendar year is expected to be more than that of the previous quarter.

**Supply of Wagons for Transporting Food-  
Grains and Fodder to Rajasthan**

276. SHRI D.N. PATODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Rajasthan have approached his Ministry to provide adequate number of wagons for transporting foodgrains and fodder for the famine affected areas of Rajasthan;