

Chain Pulling in Bihar

*790. SHRI ZAINUL BASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trains coming from Bihar are usually late due to regular chain pulling;

(b) the names of the trains of Northern Railway and North-Eastern Railway which are most affected;

(c) what action Government have taken so far to check the habit of chain pulling; and

(d) if no result has come out of this, what further steps Government are contemplating to take in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) Punctuality of some trains coming from Bihar is affected by alarm chain pulling.

(b) B.G. 1. 85 Up Assam Mail.

2. 155 Up Tinsukia Mail.

3. 103 Up Howrah-New Delhi A.C. Express.

4. 153 Up Muzaffarpur-Delhi Jyanti Janata Express..

5. 11 Up Howrah-Delhi Express.

6. 7 Up Toofan Express.

7. 13. Up Upper India Express.

8. 161 Up Tatanagar Express.

9. 175 Up Puri-New-Delhi Neelachal Express.

10. 5 Up Howrah-Amritsar Mail.

11. 9 Up Howrah-Dehradun Express.

12. 51 Up Sealdah Jammu Tawi Express.

M.G.: 1. 9 Up Kanpur Express.

2. 15 Up Lucknow Express.

3. 17 Up Vaishali Express.

4. 37 Up Prayag Express.

(c) The following steps have been taken to curb the evil of alarm chain pulling:—

(i) Posting of plain clothed TTEs and Railway Protection Force/Government Railway Police personnel in trains.

(ii) Conducting surprise checks by anti-alarm chain pulling squads consisting of TTEs and Railway Protection Force personnel;

(i) Surprise ambush at places noted for unauthorised chain pulling;

(iv) Blanking off of alarm chain apparatus on selected trains in vulnerable areas.

(v) Educative campaigns in press through posters, cinema slides. etc. and by announcement on the Public Address System at important stations;

(vi) Creating consciousness among the young about the evil of alarm chain pulling through talks in educational Institutions by serving and retired railway officers;

(vii) Offering of rewards to those who help in apprehending chain pullers.

(d) The checks are being intensified. The Zonal Railways have been asked to maintain better coordination with the State Governments to curb the incidents of alarm chain pulling. This apart, State Governments have been addressed for eliciting their fullest cooperation in tackling this menace.