

[Dr. Keekar]

tion programmes to artistes in C class has been taken as a normal measure for improvement and is common to all A.I.R. stations and not to Calcutta alone. I would like also to call attention to the eligibility of any of these artistes, who continue to improve, of being upgraded and put in a better category at any time.

It would, therefore, be misleading to call any change in the list of C class artistes as retrenchment. On the contrary, A.I.R. has been extremely considerate to these artistes by allowing them group concert performances. If listeners' reactions were to be taken into consideration, they would have to be eliminated completely.

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STATEMENT RE: MURDER OF  
THREE R.M.S. EMPLOYEES IN A  
TRAIN

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): Before the hon. Minister makes a statement, may I make a submission on this point? There was an adjournment motion on the 14th, and you were pleased to direct the Minister to make a statement. In this connection, I would like to say that I have given notice of a Short Notice Question; I believe, Mr. Raghunath Singh has also tabled a S.N.Q. So, in the course of the statement, I would like the Minister to cover these points also. I would also like to know whether in this particular area there was some accident during last year.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister can only give whatever information he has got. If he has not got this information, I will ask him to get it. The enquiry may be going on.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): I would request that the S.N.Q. may also be replied to.

Mr. Speaker: Only if it is allowed. Unfortunately, hon. Members do not know how to utilize this opportunity, in spite of their experience in the matter. If the S.N.Q. has not been allowed yet, and if it contains mat-

ters which are not referred to now by the hon. Minister, I shall ask him to answer them later on.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: It is a question of delay.

Mr. Speaker: We are sitting here from day to day.

Shri Tangamani: The S.N.Q. relates to the other Ministry, the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawas Khan): This relates to the murder of three R.M.S. employees in 3 A.T.F. passenger train between Agra and Tundla in the night of 12th March 1958.

The facts of the case, as ascertained from the Assistant Inspector-General, Government Railway Police, Allahabad, are furnished below.

The passenger train in question left Agra Cantt. at 10-30 p.m. on 12-3-1958. The R.M.S. van was placed 5th from the engine and 6th from the Guard's brake. The train stopped for 3 minutes at the outer signal of Raja-ki-Mandi and again for 32 minutes at the outer signal of Agra City station for crossing of a train. Other halts at stations were scheduled ones. The train reached Tundla at 12-30 p.m. where robbery and murder were detected for the first time. The R.M.S. clerk there went to deliver mail bags and found the mail van bolted from inside. There was no response to his knocking. The off side door of the mail van was also found locked with the railway keys. This door was got opened when it was discovered that mail guard Bhagwan Singh and porter Sheo Saran Singh had been murdered in the mail van with multiple stabbing wounds on their body. Another R.M.S. porter Mahi Lal, who belonged to Tundla R.M.S. and was to take duty in 11 Up train from Tundla to Delhi was also found similarly murdered in the adjoining compartment directly connected with the mail van. Porter Mahi Lal was not travelling on duty but was travelling along with

the 2 R.M.S. employees on duty in order to reach Tundla in time to take up his duty in 11 Up train.

All mail bags were found scattered and contents of only insured parcels and insured covers missing. The total loss estimated by R.M.S. officers is about Rs. 3,000.

The C.I.D., U.P., have taken up the investigation and the Government Railway Police and District Police are assisting them.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): May I know whether any compensation has been ordered to be paid to the dependents of the people murdered?

Mr. Speaker: They would not be keeping quiet. Naturally, they will do it.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: They were all very young people—aged 25 or 28 years. Non-payment will cause a lot of hardship to their dependents.

Mr. Speaker: The law will take its own course.

In regard to the statement made by the hon. Minister just now, Shri Tangamani and Shri T. B. Vittal Rao have suggested that the points referred to in the Short Notice Questions on the same subject may also be answered. This suggestion would apply to other Ministers also. The practice in this Secretariat is that as soon as notices of Short Notice Questions are received, advance copies are straightaway sent to the Ministries concerned. Whenever a calling attention notice is received, that is also sent to the Minister, along with the Short Notice Question, if any, so that his answer may be comprehensive.

I would suggest that in future, whenever a Minister makes a statement on the floor of the House in pursuance of an earlier direction, or in answer to a Calling Attention Notice, he will kindly answer all those points that have been raised in the

Short Notice Questions and other questions on the same subject; notices of which would have reached him before that date; that is to say, if it is possible to get the information by that time, let the statement be as comprehensive as possible, instead of replying only to a particular point for the time being and then making a fuller statement later on. If a full statement is made by the hon. Minister, it will avoid my admitting the Calling Attention Notices or the Short Notice or other Questions on the same subject. This is for future guidance.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I would like to make a submission. This case is under police investigation, and we have deliberately made the statement rather brief, in order not in any way to prejudice the investigations by the police.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): May I ask for a clarification. The hon. Minister has just stated that a peon, who was to take over from Tundla, was also found murdered. How could it be possible that a person who was to take over from a station which the train had not yet reached at the time of the accident was found in the train? That is one thing which I want him to explain.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member was himself a Minister. We do not allow supplementary questions on a statement. Anyhow, the fact is that the man has been murdered. We are not going to revive the man, who has been murdered, by such questions. Now we will have to get into the cause of it and that is under Police investigation.

An Hon. Member: Get the statement clarified.

Mr. Speaker: He has read whatever he has got.