

[Shri Dasappa]

on the recommendations/conclusions contained in the Thirty-third Report and residual recommendations contained in the Seventeenth, Twenty-first, Twenty-fourth and Twenty-sixth Reports of the Estimates Committee (First Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Railways.

- (ii) Ninety-sixth Report on the Ministry of Rehabilitation Eastern Zone.
- (iii) Ninety-seventh Report on the Ministry of Rehabilitation-Dandakaranya Project.

12.21 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(i) DEATH OF A STUDENT IN TRAIN

Shri P. C. Borooah (Sibsagar): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Railways to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The death of a student in the 63 UP train in Assam on the 7th April, 1960.”

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Sir, on 7-4-1960 one Shri Badan Chandra Syam, a student of X class of Sapekhati High School and son of Shri Auk Syam of village Rohansyam Gaon, Post Sapekhati was detected travelling without ticket by C2 Down Passenger train by the District Squad while conducting a special check (cross-country check) arranged at mile 556 between Borhat and Baruanagar stations. The student did not have the money with him, so it was proposed to take him by the same train to the Magistrate of the Mobile Court for necessary action. But, while the train stopped at Sapekhati station,

the student was found unconscious. The local doctor of civil hospital, Sapekhati, and a lady doctor travelling on the train, attended on the student at the spot and declared him dead. The officer in charge, Government Railway Police, Insukia, on being advised, attended to the case, took over charge of the dead body and after necessary investigations made over the dead body to the relatives of the deceased on the same day. Police enquiry report and further details are not yet available and are being obtained.

I may add that we have made every effort to get the full details but, unfortunately, they are not available. As soon as further details are available, I shall supply them.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether it is a fact that the student who travelled in that train paid 12 annas for travelling a distance of four miles? Is it also a fact that the dead body was allowed to be disposed of without any *post mortem*?

Mr. Speaker: Was there any *post-mortem* examination?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Immediately after this case came to our notice and we received the Calling Attention notice we made efforts to get further details, but we have not succeeded. As the version given in the Calling Attention notice is a serious one, I want to have a further thorough investigation in the matter?

Mr. Speaker: Was there a *post-mortem* examination?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: We have not got that information yet. We propose to have a very close probe in this matter and to send the report to you and to the hon. Members as soon as we get it.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): May I know whether the hon. Minister is prepared to say that a judicial

enquiry shall be conducted into it? When a person dies in the Police lock-up or jail, a judicial enquiry is held.

Mr. Speaker: The Police are investigating it. If they launch a case they will go to the court.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): The Headmaster of the school to which this boy belongs—he belongs to a minority community there—has written a letter to me. There he says that it was one of the ticket checkers who gave him a hick over vital parts of the body....

Mr. Speaker: Was he present there in the train?

Shri Hem Barua: I will come to that. Then there was another student reading in the same class and belonging to the same school.....

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That fact is contained in the Call Attention Notice. On that basis I want to have an enquiry.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member who tabled the Call Attention Notice referred to death having been due to kicks received or administered by the ticket collector or some railway authority. Because of that I admitted the Call Attention Notice.

Shri Hem Barua: I request the hon. Railway Minister to make a specific enquiry into this matter. Then another thing is that when the dead body was taken to Sapekhati Station, the dead body was lying there up to 6-30 P.M. and the Station Master disposed of this body without sending it for *post mortem* examination. The whole Railway staff had some whispering consultations. There is an allegation like that also.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The hon. Member is not giving any further information. All these facts are contained in the Call Attention Notice itself. The information as I have in my possession up till now is that at the station a civilian doctor was

called—a doctor not of the Railways but of the Assam Government—and a lady doctor travelling in the train. As has been stated, on their authority it was handed over to the Police. The Police, after some investigation, handed over the dead body to the relations. These are all the facts that we have got in possession at present. But afterwards, however, further information has been given to me in the Call Attention Notice and, as I have stated, I want to have a thorough investigation.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: All hon. Members who have got any extra information will communicate it to the Police for investigating into this matter. If they find that there is a case to go before the magistrate, they will certainly lay the case before the court.

Shri Vajpayee (Balrampur): The allegation is against the Police and the Police is investigating the matter!

Mr. Speaker: The whole world is corrupt. This kind of allegation is useless. What can be done? (*Interruption*). I am not going to allow this. Hon. Members must resume their seats when I am on my legs. At least, they will observe the rules of etiquette in this House.

So far as this matter is concerned, I have given sufficient opportunity to hon. Members. I have brought it up before the House as a Call Attention Notice because serious allegations have been made. The matter is under investigation in the normal course by the Police. That is the course which is adopted for the purpose of investigating into such matters. Whatever information any hon. Member has got may be passed on to the Police for investigating into it. Once they find that there is a case, normal proceedings under the Criminal Procedure Code will be instituted. Some of the hon. Members who are raising it are lawyers. They are aware of the procedure....

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of Urgent Public Importance the Sittings of the
House

[Mr. Speaker]

(Interruption). I cannot understand this..... (Interruption).

Shri Hem Barua: A departmental enquiry is going on.

Mr. Speaker: Will he resume his seat or not? There is another Call Attention Notice by Shri P. C. Borooah.

Shri Amjad Ali (Dhubri): May I seek some clarification?

Mr. Speaker: No further clarification is required.

(ii) FIRE INCIDENTS IN MANIPUR

Mr. Speaker: There is another Call Attention Notice. Under rule 197(3) not more than one Call Attention Notice can be admitted for the same sitting. But today being the last day of the Session, a second call Attention Notice is put down on the Order Paper. A statement in respect of that may be laid on the Table of the House by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs.

Shri P. C. Borooah: Sir, under rule 197.....

Mr. Speaker: No. Only one Call Attention Notice is admitted for a day. But because it is the last day of the Session I have admitted both the Call Attention Notices. One statement is made in the House and the other is placed on the Table of the House as a statement.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Sir, I lay the statement on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Kuki and Hmars tribal people live in the interior of Manipur and

its neighbourhood. Recently the Kuki National Assembly of Manipur has raised the demand for the creation of a separate Kuki State. To obtain support for this demand some Kukis have been asking certain tribes including Hmars to declare themselves as Kukis. The Hmars have, however, refused to identify themselves with Kukis and their own National Union has raised the demand for a separate district for the tribe. The Hmars have complained that three members of their tribe had been kidnapped by Kukis and that some of their villages have also been burnt. On the 10th, 11th and 12th April, 1960, the Kuki villages of Thingkara, Loubol, Upper Taithughat and Zolgang were raided, 26 dwelling houses, one place of worship and three granaries were burnt. One Kuki villager was killed and another injured. These attacks appear to have been made by some members of the Hmars tribe. On receipt of information about these incidents the S.D.O. the police and other local officers were deputed to the villages in question. Efforts are also being made to bring the main Kuki leaders and the local Hmar leaders together so that the relations between the two tribes may be improved.

12.26 hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE
SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Speaker: The Committee on Absence of Members from Sittings of the House in their Twentieth Report have recommended that leave of absence may be granted to the following Members for the periods indicated against each:

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| (1) Shri Mohammed Khuda Bukhsh. | 8th February to 6th April, 1960 (Tenth Session.) |
| (2) Shri B. Pocker | 5th April, to 22nd April 1960 (Tenth Session.) |
| (3) Shri J. B. Kripalani | 6th April to 29th April, 1960 (Tenth * Session) |
| (4) Her Highness Maharani Vijaya Raje Scindia of Gwalior. | 8th February to 6th April, 1960 (Tenth Session). |
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