

चाहता हूँ कि रेल मंत्रालय क्या इन लोगों को आर्म्ड परसनल के समकक्ष मानने को तैयार है या नहीं है ?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : Each of the Ministries, Railways and Defence, is governed by its own salary structure and allowances. To bring any particular class on the same level, the Finance Ministry has to process it. I am not processing it. Therefore, I cannot give any time-limit.

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : आप क्या उनको समकक्ष मानने हैं या नहीं ? उसका उत्तर नहीं आया है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या जवाब दे ? दे तो रहे हैं।

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : The hon. member can rest assured about it. In fact, the benefits derived by the dependents of the railway personnel who died are almost equal to those of the defence personnel. There is not much of a difference.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Then why not parity ?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : We cannot introduce parity between Ministry and Ministry because each does a different type of work. Therefore, the question of Parity is only notional.

SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAINULI : What is the total number of railway employees killed and injured in this war ?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : 13 have been killed and 26 wounded.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : The hon. Minister stated that there is only a little difference between the Railway Ministry's compensation scheme and the Defence Ministry's and that the Finance Ministry's consent has to be obtained. Even for the Defence Ministry personnel, the Defence Minister announced special rates and concessions on this occasion. The question is, will the Railway Minister recommend the same concessions to the railway personnel who have suffered as is being given to the defence personnel ? It is a special case.

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : That is what we have recommended.

DETECTION OF A PLASTIC BOMB NEAR RAILWAY TRACK BETWEEN DIMAPUR AND RANGAPAHAR STATIONS ON NORTH-EAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

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*165. **SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :**

SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major train disaster was averted on the 20th February, 1972 in Upper Assam by the timely detection of a plastic bomb near the railway track between Dimapur and Rangapahar Stations (Northeast Frontier Railway);

(b) whether any investigation was made in the matter and if so, with what results; and

(c) the measures taken to avoid such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No Sir. One hand grenade and not a plastic bomb having marks P.O.F. was recovered near the railway track between Dimapur and Rangapahar Stations on 20-2-1972 at about 10 25 hours.

(b) The case is under Police investigation.

(c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

The following measures have been taken :

- (i) Security patrolling by the police/Home Guards in vulnerable sections.
- (ii) Track patrolling by Railway gangmen in conjunction with the Police and Army authorities.
- (iii) Guarding of vital installations round the clock by Armed Police. Guarding of important bridges by Armed Police and Home Guards.

- (iv) Search-light patrolling by 59 Mountain Brigade.
- (v) 10-Metro area on either side of the Railway track declared as protected area under the Assam Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947.
- (vi) Observation posts set up at important Railway stations.
- (vii) Railway Protection Force Dog Squads are employed to track culprits.
- (viii) Surveillance is kept over suspects, especially blacksmiths and dealers of scrap material.
- (ix) A strict eye is kept on discharged gangmen and casual labourers employed on track patrolling duties, who indulge in such mischief with the idea of getting patrolling reintroduced and thereby secure employment.
- (x) Rewarding persons responsible for timely detection of sabotage activities.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR : Is it not a fact that several other incidents occurred in this very area? May I know what steps Government are taking to prevent recurrence of these incidents?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : It has stopped already. There is no question of repetition. The incidents to which the hon. Member made reference have been taken notice of; some arrests have been made and cases registered.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR : Is there any evidence of any foreign country having been involved in instigating hostile elements in our country for this purpose?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : I have no information.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछबाय : आपने स्टेट-मेंट में कहा है कि महत्वपूर्ण स्टेशनों पर सुरक्षा की आप व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कौन से आधार सरकार ने तय किए हैं जिन को अपना

कर वह विभिन्न स्टेशनों को महत्वपूर्ण मानती है? सभी स्टेशन महत्व के होते हैं। आप कब से इसको प्रारम्भ करने वाले हैं? आपने यह भी कहा है कि कैज्युअल और दूसरी लेबर की आप छानबीन कर रहे हैं और जिस पर आपको सन्देह होगा उसको आप हटाएंगे। कौन से आधार आपके पास है जिन को अपना कर आप किसी पर सन्देह कर सकते हैं? जो चोरियां होती हैं उनको ले कर क्या आपने कभी किमी ऊपर के स्तर के अफसर को भी पकड़ा है? किम से आप छानबीन का कार्य करवाते हैं और कौन व्यक्ति है जो रेलों के अन्दर चोरी करते हैं?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : The hon. Member asks, who commits these thefts. I can only say thieves commit the thefts.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछबाय : मैंने पूछा है कि वे लोग ऊचे स्तर के हैं या नीचे के स्तर के।

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : So far as the point regarding important and unimportant stations is concerned, I would not think that thieves make any such distinction, but they commit these thefts or damages to railway properties wherever they choose. After these incidents, the State Government, the police and the army have made very effective arrangements. The hon. Member will be pleased to know that no such incident has subsequently happened.

SHRI MUHAMMED KHUDA BUKHSH : May I know through what agency this responsibility for the detection has been made known to the Government?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : The primary responsibility is that of the railway police which is under the State Governments.