

seems to be utterly unaware of what is happening in this country so far as gheraos are concerned?

**Shri F. A. Ahmed:** That part of the function can be better performed by my hon. friend by persuading other people not to indulge in this activity.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** I am not the Minister. You are the Minister of Industry. We made you Minister, but you cannot perform your duty.

**Shri Tenneti Viswanatham:** As the Minister has conceded that there is a moral claim to start some gheraos at least, has he defined a limit beyond which gherao becomes illegal and below which it becomes legalised?

**Shri F. A. Ahmed:** I have not claimed justification for it; some people claim it.

**Shri J. B. Kripalani:** If I mistake not, the Minister said that in certain cases gheraos are justified.

**Shri F. A. Ahmed:** I have not said that.

**Shri J. B. Kripalani:** May I know if that is his view or that is the view of the Cabinet?

**Shri F. A. Ahmed:** I am sorry if that has been misunderstood. What I said was that some people claim that it is justified.

**Shri Ranga:** May I draw your attention to the impropriety of the particular answer that the hon. Minister has repeated three times? He must be aware now how a wrong impression has come to be created, and he should take himself more seriously, and not simply be content with saying that some people are saying so. Some people say that to murder is good. Then what does that mean? The impression will naturally be created in the country that to murder is a good thing in some cases. Does the Minister think so?

**Shri F. A. Ahmed:** May I just say that the question was framed in such a manner if that was the view of the Labour Minister of West Bengal. I said: yes, there is a claim on the part of some people who say so.

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

बुबलिया स्टेशन पर लालगोला सवारी गाड़ी पर हमला

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S.N.Q. 45. श्री शशिभूषण वाजपेयी :  
 श्री श्रीचन्द्र गोयल :  
 डा० सूर्य प्रकाश पुरी :  
 श्री यशवन्त सिंह कुशवाह :  
 श्री रघुबीर सिंह शास्त्री :  
 श्री आत्म दास :  
 श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :  
 श्री शिवकुमार शास्त्री :  
 श्री ओ० प्र० त्यागी :  
 श्री राम गोपाल शालबाले :  
 श्री मोलहू प्रसाद :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान कृष्णनगर क्षेत्र में हुई उस घटना की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें बुबलिया शरणार्थी शिविर में रहने वाले 500 व्यक्तियों ने 2 जलाई, 1967 को लालगोला सवारी गाड़ी को रोक लिया था ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि जब पुलिस ने इन व्यक्तियों को तितर बितर करने की कोशिश की तो इस क्रुद्ध भीड़ ने उस पर पराव किया ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि पुलिस दल के एक सदस्य को सख्त चोटें आईं जिसके कारण उसे हस्पताल में भर्ती कराना पड़ा ; और

(घ) पुलिस की गोली से कितने व्यक्ति मरे अथवा जख्मी हुए तथा रेलवे सम्पत्ति की कितनी हानि हुई ?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha):** (a) Yes, Sir. The mob which was originally 200 in number swelled to 1000 later.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. But members of the Police, Railway Protection Special Force and a District Civil officer did receive injuries due to pelting of stones by the mob.

(d) 11 persons of the mob were injured as a result of police firing. 3 were given first aid and discharged. The remaining 8 were admitted in Krishnagar Civil Hospital. I succumbed to injuries. Damage to railway property has been estimated at a little over Rs. 3000/.

**श्री शशिभूषण बाजपेयी :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह भी घेराव का कोई दूसरा पहलू है ?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** Not exactly. The residents of the refugee camp nearby started some agitation demanding enhancement of their daily dole that was given to them and against the food shortage. Consequent on that, they came and obstructed the running of trains, and thus a situation developed where certain unlawful acts were committed.

**Shri Shri Chand Geel:** I would like to know whether, in view of several railway holdups recently, an enquiry has been conducted into this affair, and what arrangements the Government contemplate to secure the safety of the passengers travelling on the railways.

I also want to know whether in view of this incident, the Government has made adequate arrangements for the security of the passengers.

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** These matters are being discussed with the West Bengal Government, including the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister there, and as a result of that, they wanted certain assistance from the Railway Protection Force. Eight companies of the Railway Protection Force have been placed at the disposal of the Bengal Government to safeguard the interests of the travelling public by trains. The law and order question is a matter which rests with the State Government. As and when they seek additional assistance, we are prepared to render such assistance as is necessary.

**श्री यशवन्त सिंह कुशवाह :** क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि फायरिंग करने से पहले उन को तितर बितर करने का आदेश दिया गया था या नहीं, यह आदेश पुलिस अधिकारी द्वारा दिया गया था या मैजिस्ट्रेट द्वारा दिया गया था, कितनी पुलिस बुलाई गई थी, कितने राउण्ड्स फायर हुए तथा जांच कराने के लिये क्या अदालती जांच बैठाने का निश्चय किया गया है ? यदि ऐसा निश्चय किया गया है तो उस की टम्बं आफ रेफ्रेन्स क्या हैं तथा उस जांच की रिपोर्ट कब तक आयेगी ?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** The district magistrate, the sub-divisional officer and the deputy superintendent of police were all present at the site and perhaps they may have taken control of the situation and ordered necessary police action.

**श्री आत्सव दास :** फायरिंग के पहले क्या लाठी चार्ज हुआ था या प्रभुगैस छोड़ी गई थी ?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** According to the information that I have, thirty rounds of tear gas shells were burst to control the situation.

**श्री सिद्धकुमार शास्त्री :** जिन शरणागियों ने गाड़ी को रोका, उनकी क्या मांग थी ? गाड़ी रोकने का क्या कारण था ?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** I had explained earlier that they were demanding an increase in their daily doles; that was perhaps the reason.

**श्री श्री० प्र० स्वामी :** शरणाथियों ने जिन कारणों से वहाँ रेल के सामने घटना दिखाना या गस्टर फेंके, क्या रेलवे मिनिस्टर महोदय ने उन कारणों की सूचना कृषि मंत्री तथा अन्य सम्बन्धित कार्यालयों को दी तथा क्या उन कार्यालयों की ओर से उनकी प्रीवेन्सिज दूर की गई ?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** The redressal of these grievances is not a matter for the railways; it is for the state government and the ministries concerned there. I am only giving information about the incident that has taken place.

**श्री राज मोपाल शालबस्ते :** शरणाथियों के इस आक्रमण के पीछे क्या किसी राजनीतिक दल का हाथ है ? यदि है, तो वह दल कौन है ? तथा सरकार ने उसके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** I do not have any information to that effect.

**श्री मोचहू प्रसाद :** क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि उन शरणाथियों ने किस मांग को लेकर गाड़ी को रोका और उस का क्या नतीजा रहा ?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** I have explained it already that they demanded a rise in their daily doles.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:** At the slightest provocation or even without any provocation, to give vent to their imaginary or real grievances, Shri Poonacha's railway administration is made the target everywhere in the country. In this connection has the railway ministry any liaison with the state governments to enlist their co-operation to see that the national property is not destroyed to give expression to certain local grievances?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** We keep close liaison with the state government and other authorities concerned for the smooth running of the railways. I must admit that the railways have become the easiest target of attack when there is any kind of political upheaval or disturbance.

**श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया :** क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि जिन व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई या घायल हुए, उन्हें रेलवे बोर्ड की तरफ से कोई मुआवजा देने का विचार है ?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** It is not on account of any action initiated by the railways; it is due to action taken by the state authorities.

**श्री मृत्युंजय प्रसाद :** उस घटना के बाद से कितनी बार गाड़ियां रोकी गईं, कितनी बार गाड़ियां लेट हुईं जिनको लोगों ने रोका और उस तरह की घटनायें पिछले साल के मुकाबले कितनी बढ़ रही हैं या घट रही हैं या वैसी ही हैं ?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** Earlier, about two or three weeks ago I made a statement in this regard. The number of train holdups are far too many and are becoming more and more day after day. Even now in the Howrah-Sealdah section, between Waltair and Howrah the railway services are disrupted and the trains are not run according to the schedule. These interruptions are becoming more frequent and also serious.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Whenever there is something in this country, the railways are the target of attacks. Orissa is following West Bengal in this respect. May I know if the hon. Minister can enlighten us as to what is there so much attractive about the railways that the moving trains are the targets of attack and the movement of the trains is also held up?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** I am sorry I could not follow the hon. Member.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a humour; it is because the railways are running everywhere.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I shall repeat it, Sir. Whenever there is something in this country, generally the railways are the target of attack. Orissa is following West Bengal in this respect.

In that connection, will the hon. Minister enlighten us as to what is there so much attractive about the railways that moving trains are held up and stopped and are subject to the pelting of stones? What is there so much attractive about Shri Poonacha?

**Mr. Speaker:** All right. Let us proceed to the next item.

**Shri Kanwal Lal Gupta:** Is there not a reply to this question?

**Mr. Speaker:** I have answered it.

**Shri Hem Barua:** What was the reply, Sir?

**Mr. Speaker:** I said that the railways are easily available everywhere.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** On the previous occasion, to which the hon. Minister referred just now, a couple of weeks ago, when he laid a statement about the dislocation of trains I had drawn the attention of his colleague, the Minister of State, to a report appearing in the *Statesman* from Calcutta, referring to this Dhubulia incident itself, which said that this crowd of refugees who were obstructing the train and even removed part of the track, was led by local Congress leaders. I want to know whether subsequently he has found out anything more about this. Can he tell us?

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** I have no information.

श्री हुकुम कब कछवाय : मंत्री महोदय न प्रश्न के उत्तर में बतलाया कि वहाँ मजिस्ट्रेट मौजूद था। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ

कि मजिस्ट्रेट ने गोली चलाने के पहले क्या माइक से ऐलान किया था कि भीड़ समाप्त की जाये? या कोई ऐसी कार्यवाही की थी कि भीड़ समाप्त की जाये। क्या भीड़ को समाप्त करने के लिये अश्रुगैस का इस्तेमाल करना पहला कदम नहीं है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सीधी गोली चलाई गई, यदि हाँ, तो ऐसा क्यों किया गया।

**Shri C. M. Poonacha:** The railways were the object of attack; we had not had any control over the situation. These actions to control the situation are taken by the State Government, under their authority; and they exercise their authority by taking appropriate action. I am only furnishing the informations. I do not have any more to add.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Export Promotion Bodies

\*1738. **Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reduce the number of export promotion bodies and other councils and committees with somewhat identical membership and overlapping functions;

(b) if so, whether any plan has been chalked out in this regard; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh):** (a) to (c). Proposals under consideration of Government contemplate:—

- (i) amalgamation of the Board of Trade with the Export-Import Advisory Council, and