

unless there is something specific against them to be looked into.

**SHRI K.N. PRADHAN :** I have suggested that you should conduct a sample survey, from which we can judge its result.

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER :** Shri Krishna Kumar. I cannot give all the time to all the Members who raise their hands. I have to distribute it among so many members. We have to give a chance to the new members also.

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR :** Is it not a sad fact that more than half or almost three-fourths of the entire illiterates in the world are in our country? The Minister's answer, I am afraid, reflects a somewhat routine approach. There is an example of some Socialist countries, for instance Cuba, where illiteracy was wiped out in 1 or 2 years through a mass movement. I would like to ask the Minister whether this Government will be prepared to organize a mass movement, using all the literates and educated people in the country—not only the Government machinery—to wipe out illiteracy during the period of the 7th five year plan.

**SHRI K. C. PANT :** I very much welcome the suggestion and seek the co-operation of my hon. friend to make up for any deficiencies in the Government structure. There are 3 lakh University students in the National Service Scheme (NSS) who are even to-day engaged in the Adult Education Programme. But I fully agree with the sentiment that unless this is made into a mass movement, unless young people, teachers, employers and trade unions are involved, and also unless my friends here are all involved—because they are the keys to the success of a programme like this in mobilizing public opinion, public enthusiasm and motivation—things will be difficult. Therefore, I very much welcome the suggestion; and I hope it will be followed up by concrete cooperation in furthering this programme.

**Disparity in charging fare between  
Howrah and Siuri**

\*392. **SHRI GADADHAR SAHA :**

**SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :** Will the

Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any disparity in the fare charged between Howrah and Siuri (West Bengal) was brought to the notice of the Railway department in 1984 ;

(b) whether there was any such lapse on the part of the Railway authorities while charging the train fare between Howrah and Siuri;

(c) if so, whether Railways is making arrangement for the refund of excess fare charged from the passengers;

(d) if so, how it is proposed to be refunded after a lapse of considerable period;

(e) whether such discrepancies were noticed in other Railways in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken by Government ?

**THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) :** (a) to (c) . Yes, Sir.

(d) Eastern Railway have notified in a local newspaper, published from Calcutta, informing the persons concerned, who are about 239 in number, to claim for refund of Rs. 2/- each which will be granted on due verification.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. One case occurred in Southern Railway. The route of 20 Up Trivandrum Central—Madras Mail which was earlier passing through Coimbatore, was changed to bypass Coimbatore but the fare from Chenganacherry to Madras was continued to be charged via Coimbatore. This discrepancy was rectified as soon as it came to notice. Railways have been instructed to ensure that the fares are charged by the routes actually travelled and there are no discrepancies of this nature.

**SHRI GADADHAR SAHA :** In reply to the question, the hon. Railway Minister admitted that there were lapses, and that

239 passengers were entitled to get a refund of Rs. 2/- per ticket; and that a notification in this regard was published in a local newspaper by the Railways. But I want to ask a specific question what are the lapses, and what is the period or specific number of days on which this extra passenger fare was charged from the passengers for journeys from Siuri to Howrah, and from Howrah to Siuri back ?

SHRI BANSI LAL : This over-charging was only from the Howrah side.

SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : The first question is what are the lapses on the part of the Railway authorities; and the second is about the number of days on which extra fare was charged.

SHRI BANSI LAL : Due to a mistake, they charged Rs. 2/- per ticket, and the passengers who were over-charged were only 239.

SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : I draw your attention to the notification that was published in *Daily Basumati* dated the 6th April.

MR. SPEAKER : This is a small matter. Human errors do take place. What can you do about them ?

SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : The period mentioned here is from 2nd February to 27th February.

I request the Minister to specify the period for which the extra charge realised will be refunded to them.

SHRI BANSI LAL : What is the question ?

MR. SPEAKER : They say, what is the period for which the excess charge will be refunded.

SHRI BANSI LAL : Whenever they respond. Whenever claimants come, after due verification, it will be given to them. It was publicised in the newspaper of Calcutta known as *Basumati* of 6th April, 1985.

SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : In reply to my question, the hon. Minister has said

that instructions have been issued to the railway authority that passengers are charged by the route actually travelled. Here is a new order and a policy decision. What is the basis of this new order and the policy decision ?

SHRI BANSI LAL : The new order is that passengers will be charged by the route they travel.

SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Since the inception of the railways during the British days, there was one convention that passengers, whichever route they travelled, were charged the same fare. A passenger from Siuri to Howrah via Andal or Saintia was charged the same fare, no difference in fare before. Since the inception of the railway during the British days, there was only one identical charge for the passengers whichever route they travelled. In this case, is it a new policy decision, a new order that has been issued and the railway authority are instructed to realise the fare according to that order ? What is the basis of the order ?

SHRI BANSI LAL : What is the question ?

MR. SPEAKER : Professor, have you followed this question ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If I come to Delhi from Bombay via London I should get the same fare.

DR. SARADISH ROY : In the debate on the railway budget, I raised this question. Certain answers were given which I received from the Railway Board. In that answer, he mentioned that 'due to certain difficulties, these orders could not be implemented from 1-8-1981. However, these were implemented in stages. The first phase where the distance differential by alternative longer route was 75 kms. or more was implemented w.e.f. 1-9-83, the second phase where the distance differential was more than 50 kms. but less than 75 kms. was implemented w.e.f. 1-1-84 and the third phase where the distance differential was less than 50 kms. was implemented w.e.f. 1-4-1984.' The Moraki Express, the first passenger train was introduced on 1st January, 1940 much ahead of 1-4-1984;

and the fare was realised according to whims, extra fare was realised from that day onwards from both the ends—Siuri to Howrah; that has not been mentioned. Here, in this advertisement it is mentioned, "from 2-2-1984 to 27-2-1984". On what ground? Why not earlier? (*Interruptions*) Three phases have been mentioned. From Howrah to Burdwan there are two routes, one is the main line and the other is chord line. The chord line is shorter by about 50 km. Even then the passengers will have to pay extra fare. From Howrah to Delhi you can travel by G.T. road, you can travel by main line, you can travel by another line from Shantiniketan and Bhagalpur, etc.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Do not derail.

MR. SPEAKER : I am derailed in this question.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : No question of derailment.

DR. SARADISH ROY : They are collecting in that way extra fare from the passengers. They are hiding the facts. Originally the Secretary, Railway Board, said that only two rupees was the extra fare realised from 239 passengers. And in the advertisement they have taken the period 2-2-1984 to 27-2-1984. Why not 1st April 1984.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BANSI LAL : What is the question?

(*Interruptions*)

DR. SARADISH ROY : I am asking the question. You are realising extra fare from the passengers every time. You can realise it only from the 1st of April. But you are realising it from 26th of January. Why? The whole fare should be returned to the passengers.

MR. SPEAKER : We will return the extra fare to the passengers.

DR. SARADISH ROY : Our proposal is that the money should be deposited at the station and the MLAS, MPS and other passengers should be provided amenities.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : It should be utilised for providing amenities to the passengers. It is a very good proposal. Instead of refunding it to the passengers that money should be utilised for providing some amenities for the passengers.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : My question is, has he followed anything?

MR. SPEAKER : At least, I have not, Sir. Have you followed, Professor?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : If you have followed it, then please explain it. Mr. Raju may explain it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I can make the confusion more confounded.

SHRI ANAND GAJAPATHI RAJU : I will try my level best to explain. What the hon. Member was saying—was trying to say—was that Rs. 2/- extra fare was collected and it is a very big thing as far as the poor man is concerned and therefore immediate refund should be made; and the second thing which the hon. Member was trying to say is that when a train goes in a particular route, if it goes on a longer route, then why not charge the same fare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : The Member is questioning that.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, you can reply.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BANSI LAL : Whatever we have charged extra was from 239 passengers. We are ready to pay it back and we have put out an advertisement in a local newspaper about it. Whenever the claimants come, we will repay the amount.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Amarsingh Rathawa. The hon. Member is absent.

Shri D. L. Baitha. He is also absent.

Shri Lal Duhoma. He is also absent.

There has been a hat-trick and by the time I reach the fourth name the time will be over.

Shri Chinta Mohan. He is also not there. There is no *chinta* now.

Shri Amar Roypradhan. Here you are! You have broken the monotony and by that time the time will be over.

**Linkage of stipend to interns in Medical Colleges and Hospitals with price index**

\*397. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present rate of stipend paid to interns in the Medical Colleges and Hospitals in the country;

(b) whether it has any linkage with the price index;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and on what basis the present stipend is given to the interns ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (d). Interns of the Central institutions/hospitals (including Statutory/Autonomous Bodies wholly financed by the Central Government) are paid a monthly stipend of Rs. 750/- with effect from 1st January, 1985. Since this amount is only a stipend and not a wage, it is not linked with the price index.

As per available information, the rate of stipend payable to the interns of the State medical colleges/hospitals varies from Rs. 325/- to Rs. 600/- except in the case of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh where the stipend amount has recently been increased to Rs. 800/- per month.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is over.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The Minister can explain the answer.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

[English]

**Rail Line from Qazi Gund to Uri in Jammu and Kashmir**

\*387. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether laying of railway line from Qazi Gund to Uri in Jammu and Kashmir State is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that survey was conducted for this purpose; and

(c) if so, when Government propose to start work on this project ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir. Not at present.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Due to severe constraint of resources and heavy commitments already in hand, the question of taking up this work will have to await consideration till the position of resources improves.

**Awarding Degrees/Diplomas and Certificates in Indian System of Medicines and Homocopathy by unauthorised Institutions**

\*388. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of unauthorised institutions awarding degrees/diplomas/certificates in Indian System of Medicine and Homocopathy have come to the notice of Government during the last three years;

(b) whether some cases have also come to the notice of Government of unqualified persons practising these systems of medicine in the country;

(c) if so, whether any time bound programme was launched and some persons were arrested in this regard through vigilance;