

what prevented the hon. Minister to provide drinking water and pantry car .. *(Interruptions)*. Please do justice, Sir. Let him answer, Sir. What has prevented the Minister to provide pantry car and drinking water...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you think that if you make a louder noise, that will make a valid question ?

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : The train goes from Assam to Bombay, Sir. Please do justice.

MR. SPEAKER : You put a question, I will get you the answer. But this is not the way he can answer it off and on.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Sir, when the train has been introduced, why not pantry car and drinking water also be provided ?

MR. SPEAKER : Have you got any answer to that ? This is not concerned with this question. This is just out of blue sky.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Sir, there is no proposal to extend the Bombay suburban system up to Gauhati.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Sir, this shows the step-motherly attitude which has been taken by the Government for the people of the North-Eastern region.

Train Services on Howrah-Barddhaman and Sealdah-Dankuni Lines

*192. DR. SUDHIR ROY† :

SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the passengers of Howrah-Barddhaman Chord line and Sealdah-Dankuni line are facing lot of problems due to inadequate train services and other facilities on these lines ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to ease the problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS : (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) There has been demand for more suburban trains on the Howrah Barddhaman Chord line and the Sealdah-Dankuni line.

(b) One additional pair of suburban locals was introduced between Sealdah and Dankuni in April, 1987.

DR. SUDHIR ROY : Sir, there is heavy pressure of passanger traffic at the station and the specialists have opined that if a portion of this passanger traffic is diverted to Sealdah, then the daily traffic jam will not be there at all. Under the circumstances, I would like to know from the Minister whether he would introduce more local trains directly between Barddhaman and Sealdah. There is at present only one local train plying between Sealdah and Barddhaman.

The other supplementary that I would like to know from the Minister is whether the Andal Sealdah line would be opened for passenger traffic also, which is reserved only for goods traffic.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Sir, on the Sealdah-Dankuni section which the hon. Member has referred to, sixteen pairs of EMU trains are running, three pairs of main line passenger trains are running and twelve and a half goods trains run each way. We are, of course, trying to increase suburban facilities through increased services, both in the Bombay area and in the Calcutta area. But there are line saturation problems and also limitations of rolling stock, which sometimes make it difficult to immediately increase it without improving the traffic facilities which is also an on going process.

DR. SUDHIR ROY: What about Andal-Sealdah line ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : At present we are not considering this because

goods movement has to receive the priority. Otherwise, it has an adverse effect on the movement of essential commodities which in its turn effect the price level, especially in metropolitan cities.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, one of the main reasons for the congestion at Howrah Station is that the trains which are approaching or leaving the Howrah Station, have to wait near the outersignal. It is due to frequent failure of route-relay inter-locking system at Howrah. I am told that this route-relay inter-locking system was introduced in the year 1967. Out of the two systems, one system was set up by the West German Company and the second by Saxoby Company of Calcutta. After 1967, after the introduction of route-relay interlocking system, no maintenance work or overhauling of the system has been down all these years. That is the reason why the system fails very frequently. In view of this, may I know from the hon'ble Minister whether this route-relay inter-locking system at Howrah will be maintained properly ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : It is our endeavour to ensure that all facilities like route-relay inter-locking or signalling or tele-communications are maintained at certain level so that there is no hampering to the movement of our traffic. The hon. Member's suggestion will certainly be kept in mind and I will certainly have another look into it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, presently discussion is going on in regard to suburban railway lines of Howrah and Bombay but the problem is not of only Bombay or Howrah. It is the problem of all the big cities. Delhi is the capital of the country and the people from the surrounding cities come here daily by rail but the facilities in this regard are inadequate. I come from Mathura. The suburban trains should be made available urgently from Mathura, Bharatpur and Agra and also from Rajasthan and Haryana to Delhi. In this connection, I have asked this question several times earlier also. Is the hon. Railway Minister thinking of making available this facility ?

MR. SPEAKER : This question is not related to the main question. It is a specific question. For this you may give a separate notice. I will get it replied.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : For the last three years I have been asking for this facility.

MR. SPEAKER : Whether you have been asking about it for the last three years or five years, you may give a separate notice. I will get it admitted. I cannot say anything regarding further action.

[*English*]

Representations from Paper Mills

*193. **SHRIMATI BASAVARA-JESWARI :** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the paper mills in the country have represented to Government that Government's procurement policy of white printing paper for utilization in the educational sector in States and Union Territories is discriminatory;

(b) if so, the main objections raised by the paper mills;

(c) whether Union Government are agreeable to their demands by amending the order; and

(d) if not, the main reasons thereof ?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Consequent upon the repeal of the Paper Control Order, it has been decided to entrust the Hindustan Paper Corporation,