

[12th May, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Damage to Railway Property During Bihar Bund

5150. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any damage to the Railway property was caused during the bund organised in Bihar to protest against swearing in of the NDA Government in the State in March, 2000;

(b) whether any estimate has been made of the amount of loss suffered by Railways as result thereof;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any action has been taken or is proposed to be taken against the persons responsible for the loss; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Railway property worth Rs. 299 Lakhs and Rs. 68,60,942/- was damaged in Eastern and North Eastern Railway respectively.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Civil police and GRP have registered cases against the persons responsible for the loss under various section of IPC and the Railway Act, Five cases have been registered in the jurisdiction of North Eastern Railway.

Generating More Revenue for Railways

5151. SHR NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that government have advanced Rs. 35,000 crores to the Railways on a nominal interest of only 4.2 per cent, while borrowing at 11 per cent, thus giving an implicit subsidy of Rs, 2,400 crores annually;

(b) if so, what are the plans of the Railways to generate its own resources so as not to depend on this subsidy; and

(c) whether Railways would be generating more revenue or reducing expenditure to bridge this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Central Government's investment in