

tuahty performance of 150 Qutab-Narmada Express going to Jabalpur was satisfactory but that of 149 Qutab-Narmada Express coming to Nizam-uddin was not due mainly to alarm chain pulling on Jabalpur-Mainpur section and some other miscellaneous reasons.

(c) A close watch on the performance of 149/150 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Jabalpur Qutab-Narmada Express is being maintained by the concerned Zonal Railway. In order to curb the incidence of alarm chain pulling, the Zonal Railways have instructions to maintain liaison with the State Government at all levels.

#### t [Delay in booking of wagons for dis-

मेड़ता रोड स्टेशन से सिलीगुड़ी तक  
चूना भेजने के लिए माल डिब्बों की बुकिंग  
में देरी

1665. श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : क्या  
रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1977-78 तथा 1978-79  
के दौरान प्रत्येक माह उत्तर रेलवे के मेड़ता  
रोड स्टेशन पर सिलीगुड़ी को चूना भेजने के  
लिए कितने माल डिब्बे बुक किये गये ; और

(ख) क्या गत कई महीनों से चुने के  
लिए माल डिब्बों की बुकिंग बन्द कर दी गई  
है ; यदि हाँ, तो ऐसा कब से किन् स्टेशनों के  
लिए किया गया है और उसके क्या कारण  
हैं ?

#### patching of lime from Merta Road Station to Siliguri

1665. SHRI SUNDER SINGH  
BHANDARI: Will the Minister of  
RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of wagons booked  
for despatching lime at Merta Road Station  
on the Northern Railway for Siliguri town  
during 1977-78 and 1978-79, month-wise;  
and

[ ] English translation. 2194  
RS.-4.

(b) whether the booking of wagons for  
lime has been stopped for the last several  
months; if so, since when together with the  
names of the stations for which it has been  
closed and the reasons therefor?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दिव्य  
नारायण) : (क)

महीना	लादे गये माल डिब्बों की संख्या	
	1977-78	1978-79
अप्रैल	11	8
मई	6	12
जून	6	11
जुलाई	10	19
अगस्त	10	20
सितम्बर	25	8
अक्तूबर	26	5
नवम्बर	17	13
दिसम्बर	19	15
जनवरी	36	6
फरवरी	24	6
मार्च	20	9
( 10 मार्च तक )		

(ख) पूर्वोत्तर सीमा रेलवे पर लादे गये  
चल स्टॉक का बहुत अधिक जमघट हो जाने  
के कारण तथा वहाँ माल डिब्बों के और अधिक  
जमा होने से बचने के लिए पूर्वोत्तर सीमा रेलवे को  
जाने वाले यातायात को नियमित करना अपे-  
क्षित था इसलिए, उत्तर रेलवे से बुकिंग को  
दिसम्बर, 1978 में 18 दिन, जनवरी,  
1979 में 26 दिन और फरवरी, 1979 में  
24 दिन तक प्रतिबन्धित रखना पड़ गया  
था ।

[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a)

Month	No of wagons loaded	
	1977-78	1978-79
April	11	8
May	6	12
June	6	11
July	10	19
August	10	20
September	25	8
October	26	5
November	17	13
December	19	15
January	36	6
February	24	6
March	20	9
	[upto 10th March]	

(b) Due to very heavy congestion of loaded stock on N.F. Railway and to avoid further stagnation of wagons there, loading of traffic to N.F. Railway had to be regulated as loading from Northern Railway remained restricted for 18 days in December '78, 26 days in January '79 and 24 days in February '79.]

**Removal or conversion of railway level crossing in Siliguri**

1666. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the people of Siliguri urging Government to remove or convert the railway level crossing at the heart of Siliguri town near Siliguri Road Station which is causing great inconvenience to a large number of people due to total dislocation of road traffic; and

(b) whether Government have any proposal to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) A proposal for construction of a road over-bridge at Siliguri is under

[ ] English translation.

joint consideration of the Railway and the West Bengal State Government.

**Study conducted in and around Bangalore to deal with the commuter type of passenger-traffic**

1667. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study of the existing rail configuration survey in and around Bangalore to deal with the commuter type of passenger traffic;

(b) if so, with what results;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide a Mass Rapid Transit system by railways for Bangalore like that for Bombay, Calcutta and Madras keeping in view of population of the city; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (c) No.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

**'Kara' as an offensive weapon in U.K.**

1668. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state-

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of U. K. is interfering with the religious sentiments of the Indians living in that country;

(b) whether recently 'kara' a religious symbol of Sikhs has been declared as an offensive weapon; and

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the British authorities and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) No, Sir.