

ACCIDENT ON KAI PUR-ALLAHABAD SECTION OF NORTHERN RAILWAY

1579. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss suffered by the railways as a result of the accident involving the Delhi-Howrah Janta Express and the Looan Express on the Kanpur-Ahahaba Section of the Northern Railway on the 12th August, 1970;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted into this accident; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS: (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA): (a) The cost of damage to railway property involved in this accident has been estimated as; approximately Rs. 2,28,200/-

(b) and (c) The Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety, Lucknow, has held his statutory inquiry into this accident. His report is awaited.

ELECTION IN KERALA

1580. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission has recommended postponement of the elections in Kerala;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time when the elections in Kerala will now be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI JAGANNATH RAO):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The elections in Kerala will be held on Thursday the 17th September, 1970.

1581. [Transferred to the 2nd Session, September, 1970].

LOSS SUSTAINED ON RUNNING OF UNRE-MUNERATIVE BRANCH LINES

1582. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been arrived at by Government to retrench the annual loss of Rs. 7 crores sustained by running the unremunerative branch lines from the Sur-Tax of Rs. 16.25 crores being distributed annually amongst various State Governments to make good the said loss; and

(b) if so, the accounting year from which the said decision is proposed to be given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA): (a) There has been no such proposal and no such decision. (The payment of Rs. 16.25 crores to the State Governments is in lieu of the Railway Passenger Fare Tax which had been merged with the passenger fares from 1st April, 1981).

(b) Does not arise.

RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE

1583. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual expenditure incurred by the Railways on maintaining the Railway Protection Force during the last three years;

(b) the compensation paid on claims by them during the period, year-wise; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to hand over the said Force to the State Governments?