

DISRUPTION OF RAIL TRAFFIC AT HOWRAH STATION

1361. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS :
SHRI MULKA GOVINDA
REDDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that train services were disrupted at Howrah station on the 16th September, 1969;

(b) if so, what were the reasons therefor; and

(c) the period for which the rail passengers were inconvenienced due to the disruption?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON) : (a) to (c) As a sequel to an altercation between the members of rival groups of railway staff of the Mechanical Department, a demonstration was staged by a group obstructing the track near Howrah Steam Shed from 5-30 to 10-15 hrs. on 16th September, 1969 resulting in disruption of Eastern Railway's suburban trains for this duration.

LOOTING OF WAGON AT ASANSOL

1362. SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a wagon of the 398 Dn. Asansol Puri Passenger was broken and many parcels were looted at about 6 A.M. on the 12th October, 1969 in the Asansol Yard;

(b) if so, the number of parcels looted and the details of the articles thus taken away; and

(c) whether the guard of the train has made any complaints that the Railways Protection Force refused to divulge the details of the missing parcels and articles ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON) : (a) and (b) Yes. There was a case of theft of 5 packages from a wagon attached to 398 Dn- Passenger train, of which 2 packages were recovered. The 3 packages valued in Rs. 550 were taken away. They contained gift cloth, tea chest and salad oil respectively.

(c) No.

LOOTING/THEFT OF GOODS FROM TRAINS IN ASANSOL RAILWAY YARD

1363- SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased

(a) the number of wagons in the Asansol railway yard between 1st October 1969 and the end of the year of goods looted and stolen ;

(b) the dates on and the train, in which the goods were looted ;

(c) what steps have been taken by the Government to check these thefts ?

(d) the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON) : There were 11 cases of thefts and of looting in Asansol Yard between 1st October 1969. The total value of theft/looting was Rs. 800 respectively.

(b) No case of looting in a tram, but on 27-9-60 20/35 criminals removed a wagon standing on line Asansol down main line. The value of the goods was Rs. 800 respectively.

(ii) Joint raids were conducted with the help of Government Security Force District Police and Railway Police.

order to deal with the situation.

(d) As a result of the measures taken by the Railway Protection Force, the position has improved. In November 1969, an attempt by armed criminals to loot the train was foiled. The Railway Protection Force personnel had to resort to the use of force against one notorious criminal and his associates. The entire stolen property was recovered.