

Station on the Eastern Railway for the convenience of passengers coming from far off places for visiting Jag-dishpur is under Government's consideration; and

""4 (b) if not, the reasons therefor?]

रेल मंत्री ( श्री सी० एम० पुनाचा ) :  
(क) जी नहीं ।

[THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Lack of traffic justification.]

#### PAK EFFORTS TO CUT INDO-AFGHAN TRADE

\*651. SHRI GULAM NABI UNTOO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to Pakistani efforts to cut Indo-Afghan trade; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) Pakistan is trying to increase her trade with Afghanistan. The bulk of our trade with Afghanistan is, however, on barter basis. Imports from Afghanistan are required to be counter-balanced by export of Indian goods of equivalent value to that country. Pakistan's efforts can be felt on the trade in free currency. It may be kept in mind that by the closure of traditional land route for movements of goods between India and Afghanistan, Pakistan has made the goods moving between the two countries a little costlier on account of extra freight charges via Karachi.

[ ] English translation.

#### DEMONSTRATION BEFORE THE HEAD OFFICE BY EASTERN RAILWAYMEN'S UNION

\*652. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a peaceful demonstration was recently staged before the Head Office of the Eastern Railway by the Eastern Railwaymen's Union who placed a charter of demands before the General Manager;

(b) whether the General Manager promised to look into the demands;

(c) whether any office-bearers of the Union have been suspended in this connection; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) An unruly demonstration by a number of workers led by the office-bearers of a dissident and unrecognised group of the Eastern Railwaymen's Union was staged during and beyond office hours in the office of the General Manager, Eastern Railway on the 20th May, 1967. The demonstrators presented a Memorandum, to the General Manager, containing several demands relating to the recognition of the dissident group of the Eastern Railwaymen's Union, trade union rights etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Three employees belonging to the dissident and unrecognised group of Eastern Railwaymen's Union have been suspended for violation of Rules 3 and 7 of the Railway Services (Conduct) Rules, 1966.

#### रेल दुर्घटनाएं

\*653. श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी  
चौरङ्गिया : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की  
कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1 जनवरी से 30 अप्रैल 1967  
तक कितनी रेल दुर्घटनाएं हुई ;