

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) and (b) The factual information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

DOUBLING OF SEALDAH-BONGAON RAILWAY LINE

18. { SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for doubling the Railway line in the Sealdah-Bongaon Section of the Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, when the work will start ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH) : (a) The Section from Sealdah to Dum Dum is already double line. There is no proposal to double the section from Dum Dum to Bongaon.

(b) Does not arise.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS DUE TO SABOTAGE BY NAGA AND MIZO REBELS

19. SHRI G. MURAHARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) how many railway accidents have taken place as a result of suspected sabotage by the Naga and Mizo hostiles during the last two years; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to ensure greater security on the Railways in their region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Thirteen cases (two in 1964, five in 1965 and six in 1966) have been reported. The complicity of Nagas/Mizos has not been definitely established by the Police.

(b) (i) Apart from strengthening security measures, arrangements have been made for searching of all Mail, Express and passenger trains in the affected sections.

(ii) Searching of luggage of passengers has been introduced.

(iii) Police armed guards have been posted at stations on these sections and no unauthorised person is allowed to enter platform and station premises.

(iv) Bogies have been marked separately for long and short distance passengers to facilitate searching and checking of short distance passengers.

(v) Passengers are requested to keep a sharp watch on persons whose movements are suspicious and also those who board compartments and then leave their luggage behind, and to report them to R.P.F. escorts travelling with the train.

ENQUIRY INTO SHORTAGE IN MANGANESE ORE AT PORTS OF LOADING

20. SHRI G. MURAHARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the shortage of manganese ore at the various ports of loading; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH) : (a) and (b) The bulk of manganese ore for export is procured by the M.M.T.C. on f.o.b.t. basis and so, in that regard, no question can arise of shortages at loading ports. As regards the small quantities that are procured on f.o.r. basis, no shortages at loading ports beyond normally permissible limits have come to light.

COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION INTO AFFAIRS OF SOME TEXTILE MILLS

21. { SHRI P. ABRAHAM :
SHRI JAGAT NARAIN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee consisting of officials of some of the Ministries has recently been constituted to conduct investigation into the affairs of some textile mills which have been closed or are facing closure on account of financial crisis; and

(b) if so, when the Committee is likely to submit its report ?