

office bearers, if they were held responsible for that, for the lapses, could be proceeded against, and also to see if there was any misappropriation of funds, etc.

टिकट चेकर द्वारा एक कैमरे की चोरी

*४८०. श्री प्यारेलाल कुरील 'तालिब' :
क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे
कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि २० नवम्बर, १९६३ के लगभग गंगपुर रेलवे स्टेशन पर नियुक्त एक टिकट चेकर ने दिल्ली-बम्बई जनता एक्सप्रेस में यात्रा कर रही एक विदेशी महिला का कैमरा चुरा लिया था ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो घटना का विवरण क्या है ; और

(ग) ऐसी घटनाएँ आगे न हों, इसके लिये सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है ?

†[STEALING OF A CAMERA BY A TICKET
CHECKER

*480. SHRI P. L. KUREEL URU TALIB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a ticket checker posted at the Gangapur Railway Station stole a camera belonging to a foreign lady, who was travelling by the Delhi-Bombay Janata Express on or about the 20th November, 1963;

(b) if so, what are the details of the incident; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes but the incident occurred on 10-10-1963 and not on or about 20-11-1963.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(b) On 10-10-1963, at about 21-15 hrs. when 24 Up Janata Express was standing outside signals at Gangapur City Station, a Ticket Collector of Gangapur City, entered, while not on duty, the Sleeper Coach No. 3924 and stole one Kodak 35 mm Camera, estimated value about Rs. 390/-. belonging to a foreign lady who was travelling on the lower berth in the ladies compartment of this coach. A passenger, who was also travelling in the same coach, saw the incident and grappled with the Ticket Collector who threw the camera out of the train. At Kota junction a report of the incident was lodged with the Guard of the train who issued a memo to the Assistant Station Master, Gangapur City, who in turn lodged a complaint with the Government Railway Police, Gangapur City at 4 a.m. on 11-10-1963. The Government Railway Police, Gangapur City registered a case U/s 379 I. P. C. and investigations are in progress.

(c) Prevention and detection of crime and prosecution of offenders is the responsibility of the State Police. Close co-operation is maintained with the Government Railway Police at all times for the control of crime and their attention is promptly drawn to any serious crime that occurs or increasing criminal activities in any particular area or train for taking remedial measures.

[†रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री एम० बी० रामस्वामी) : (क) जी हाँ, लेकिन यह घटना १०-१०-६३ को हुई २०-११-६३ को या उसके लगभग नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(ख) १०-१०-६३ को, रात के लगभग सवा नौ बजे जब २४ अप जनता एक्सप्रेस गंगापुर सिटी स्टेशन के सिगनलों के बाहर खड़ी थी तो गंगापुर सिटी स्टेशन का एक टिकट कलेक्टर, जो उस समय ड्यूटी पर नहीं था, शयन यान (Sleeper Coach) न० ३६२४ में घुस गया और एक कोडक ३५ मि० मी० कैमरा चुरा लिया जिसका अनुमानित मूल्य ३६० रु० था। यह कैमरा एक विदेशी महिला का था जो उस यान के महिला कक्ष में नीचे की शायिका पर यात्रा कर रही थी। उसी यान में यात्रा करने वाले एक दूसरे यात्री ने इसे देख लिया और वह टिकट कलेक्टर से गुंथ गया। टिकट कलेक्टर ने कैमरा गाड़ी से बाहर फेंक दिया। कोटा जंक्शन पर इस घटना की रिपोर्ट गाड़ी के गार्ड को कर दी गयी। गार्ड ने गंगापुर सिटी के सहायक स्टेशन मास्टर के नाम एक मीमो जारी किया; इस मीमो के आधार पर भारतीय दंड संहिता की धारा ३७६ के अधीन सहायक स्टेशन मास्टर ने ११-१०-६३ को रात में चार बजे गंगापुर सिटी की रेलवे पुलिस में शिकायत दर्ज करा दी। मामले की जांच हो रही है।

(ग) अपराधों को रोकथाम करना, उनका पता लगाना और अपराधियों पर मुकदमा चढ़ाना राज्य पुलिस का उत्तरदायित्व है। अपराध की रोकथाम के लिए रेलवे पुलिस के साथ हर समय निकट सहयोग कायम रखा जाता है और जब कभी कोई गम्भीर अपराध होता है या किसी क्षेत्र या गाड़ी में अपराध बढ़ने लगते हैं, तो उनकी रोकथाम के लिए रेलवे पुलिस का ध्यान तुरन्त दिलाया जाता है।]

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: The answer given to parts (b) and (c) is:

"A statement is laid on the Table of the House."

And in the statement it is said:

"Prevention and detection of crime and prosecution of offenders is the responsibility of the State Police."

May I know, Sir, whether it is not the responsibility of the Railway Protection Force and the Railway Police to detect such cases after making necessary investigations?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Though it is called Government Railway Police, it is really the State police functioning within the railway premises, the law and order situation is dealt with by the police, is one which comes under the State Government. But we do, the Railway Administration and the Railway Protection Force do render all assistance in the detection of crime.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: Sir, the incidents are occurring very often, and I will tell you one from my personal experience last year . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put a question.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: Last year my camera was stolen in a similar way.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kureel, this is not the time for telling stories; this is the time for questions.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: Do Government know that I lodged a written report at the Lucknow railway station last year and told the Railway Protection Force regarding the camera which was stolen from a First Class compartment, from a corridor type of bogie in which I was occupying one of the compartments? In the night my camera was stolen. Immediately I made a report to the Railway Protection Force. Since then a year and a half has passed and I have not received any information whatsoever from the Railway Protection Force or from

the Government or from the Government Railway Police. Are the Government aware of that report?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: So far as I am concerned, this is the first time I hear about it. I am sorry it should have happened.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: The reply given to part (a) of the question is not clear. A ticket checker has been alleged to have stolen the camera. May I know, Sir, whether any departmental action has been taken against the ticket checker?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Police enquiry is going on and the police have not yet been able to arrest this man.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Are we to understand that the ticket checker, who is under the Railway Ministry, has absconded,

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: If he absconds, what can we do? ...

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: Have the Government in the Railway Ministry expressed their regret to the lady, who was a foreign lady?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: The investigation is proceeding; let us know the result of the investigation, and then we shall do what is necessary in the circumstances.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: May I know, Sir, whether, if a railway employee absconds, no action is possible against him, even for his mere absconding?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: There are certain procedures laid down, and we will follow them in due course.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: I should think my camera also was stolen probably by a Government employee, by a railway employee, but I have not heard anything about my

report lodged with the Railway Protection Force.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: I am sorry my friend is so much worried about his camera. He may write a letter to us and let us see what can be done.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: I lodged the report with the Railway Protection Force last year, but so far either from the civil police or the railway police or the R.P.F. I have not received any information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope Mr. Kureel, you will keep this for your speech on the Railway Budget.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: May I know, Sir, what has been the total number of thefts registered on this line,—Delhi-Bombay,—during the last year, and in how many cases goods had been alleged to have been stolen and then recovered?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: My friend always asks about statistics. Generally, they should be asked for earlier so that we could get them.

SHRI SYED AHMAD: Is it a fact that the Railway Protection Force is meant only for the protection of railway property and for other crimes it is the Railway State Police that deal with them?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: That is exactly what I was trying to say; that is quite right.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Apart from the results of the investigation the merits of the case, is it not desertion from duty, an offence which, by itself, entitles Government to take appropriate action against the offender? Why should the Government wait for the completion of the investigation in this case? Is not Government satisfied that here is a man who has deserted from duty and that he should be proceeded against?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: As I submitted, Sir, there are the procedures; some time will have to elapse

before we take necessary action. Therefore I said appropriate action will be taken in due course.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: This is not a satisfactory reply. The Railway Establishment Code is there, and you can dismiss any employee after giving one month's notice. What procedures are required?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: We cannot act hastily; there are certain rules of procedure, and if we take a wrong step acting in haste, my friend will be the first person to raise the question here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sure Members of Parliament do not want you to go against the rules and regulations.

DELAYS IN TAKE-OFF AND LANDING OF I.A.C. PLANES

*481. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state how many times there have been delays in take-off and landing of Indian Airlines Corporation planes on the trunk routes during the last six months?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): The information is being compiled and will be furnished shortly.

*482. [The questioner (Shri Surjit Singh Atwal) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 3518-19 infra.]

SURVEY OF BHAVANAGAR-TARAPUR RAILWAY LINE

*483. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a survey for the proposed Bhavanagar-Tarapur Railway line was carried out some years back; and

(b) if so, what are the recommendations made in the survey report regarding feasibility of this line?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) A Traffic Survey for a B.G. line from Tarapur to Bhavanagar was carried out in 1953. Later, during 1956-57 a Preliminary Engineering and a fresh Traffic Survey were carried out for this line. The project was found unremunerative and was dropped. This proposal is not included in the Railways' programme of construction of new lines for the Third Plan.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: What were the recommendations of the Traffic Survey and the Engineering Survey carried out in 1953 and 1957 respectively?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Their recommendations are not here but the facts are these. In 1953 the distance surveyed was about 87.5 miles, and it was estimated that the cost would be Rs. 6.8 crores and the net return would be 0.54 per cent. And as the return was on the low side, it was dropped. Now, in the 1956 Survey, it was disclosed that the cost would be Rs. 7.59 crores and the return, 1.12 per cent. The present day cost would be Rs. 10.5 crores and the return, therefore would be even less.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: What is the average cost per mile for a broad-gauge line?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: It depends upon the terrain, on whether heavy bridging is there, whether heavy cutting is there, and so on; it varies from Rs. 10 lakhs to even Rs. 20 lakhs. On the kiriburu line it costs Rs. 22 lakhs. Therefore it will depend upon the terrain.