

TRAINS WITHOUT TTEs IN RAJKOT DIVISION

*226 SHRI K S CHAVDA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that some trains are running without Travelling Ticket Examiners in the Rajkot Division of the Western Railway, and

(b) if so, what is the estimated loss of revenue to the Railways on that Division due to ticketless travel and unbooked luggage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) Some trains particularly on less important sections on Rajkot Division are not manned by TTEs daily but are checked a few times per week

(b) It is not possible to make a proper estimate of the extent of loss of revenue without conducting a comprehensive ticket checking drive

SHRI K S CHAVDA May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that ticketless travelling and cases of unbooked luggage in the trains without TTEs are increasing? If so, may I know, Sir, what steps the Railway Ministry intends to take in this matter?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN Sir, this question relates particularly to the Rajkot Division. We have carried out checks. We send squads from the Railway Board and squads from the General Manager's Headquarters have gone and carried out surprise checks, and we have found that the extent of ticketless travel in that Division is only 1.7 per cent. We are taking very intensive steps to eliminate even this by having surprise raids in which the Magistrate sometimes has his office nearby so that effective and quick action can be taken. We also go and carry out surprise raids by buses so

that people do not know that checks are coming, they come as a complete surprise. Also by increasing the number of TTEs we are intensifying our checks.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA If the surprise checking staff finds out that these are some ticketless travellers even when there are Ticket Examiners or Ticket Collectors, may I know, Sir, if any action is taken against those Ticket Examiners?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN Sir, action is taken against the people who are travelling without ticket. But if we find that there is a wide disparity between the surprise checks by the Headquarters staff and the daily checking, then we do take the persons who are working there to task.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI May I know, Sir, if it has come to the notice of the hon. Minister that on some railway lines the TTEs have been assaulted, if so, what protection has been given to these TTEs?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN Not only there have been cases of physical assault, but in some cases the checking staff have been physically thrown out of the trains and some of them have been actually murdered. We have approached the State Governments to give us protection. On particularly bad sections, sometimes we send out powerful batches accompanied by the G.P. or the R.P.F.

SHRI K S CHAVDA May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that Rajkot Division is the biggest Division of the Western Railway and the number of TTEs there is proportionately less? If it is so, may I know, Sir, whether the Ministry intends to increase the number of TTEs on this section?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN That matter is under consideration.

श्री ए० बी० वाजपेयी : क्या यह सच है कि टी० टी० ई० जिस मुसाफिर को बिना टिकट पकड़ते हैं उसे वे अगले स्टेशन के अफसरों के हवाले नहीं कर सकते, उसे उन्हे रेलवे पुलिस थाने वाले स्टेशन पर ले जाना पड़ता है ? तो क्या टी० टी० ई० के लिए यह संभव है कि वह बिना टिकट मुसाफिरों को अपन साथ लिये घूमते रहे और जब तीन, चार स्टेशनों के बाद रेलवे पुलिस का स्टेशन आए तब वहां छोड़े उन्हें ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां नहीं, ऐसा तो नहीं है । वे किसी भी स्टेशन मास्टर के हवाले कर सकते हैं ?

श्री ए० बी० वाजपेयी मेरा निवेदन है कि जरा मिनिस्टर साहब इस बारे में पता लगाएं । यह बात सही नहीं है कि वे हर एक स्टेशन पर उनको छोड़ सकते हैं । अगर लखनऊ और फैजाबाद के बीच में किसी मुसाफिर को बिना टिकट पकड़ा जाय तो फैजाबाद में छोड़ सकते हैं जहां रेलवे पुलिस का थाना है, बीच में नहीं छोड़ सकते हैं ।

श्री शाहनवाज खां जहां ऐसे मुसाफिर बगैर टिकट हो वे स्टेशन मास्टर के भी हवाले कर सकते हैं । कई दफा मैं खुद गया हूँ और मैंने देखा है कि बहुत से लोग जो उन के साथ बैठे रहते हैं वे भी उनको उतार कर स्टेशन मास्टर के हवाले कर देते हैं ।

SHRI A. D. MANI: Sir, the Minister made the statement that in some cases Ticket Collectors have been murdered. May I know, Sir, if prosecutions had been launched against those who had murdered or is it that those who murdered remained unidentified?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No, Sir. But when the police can trace out the miscreants, action is taken.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: The hon. Minister said that ticketless travellers were handed over to the

Station Master. May I know, Sir, if the Station Master has got the power of prosecution? They do not have the police power.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: There are two categories of persons who travel without tickets . . .

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: No categories. They are all without tickets.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: . . . some who can afford to pay and others who cannot afford to pay. There are certain people who do not have any money to pay the fine. They are taken off the trains and handed over to the Station Masters.

MR CHAIRMAN: Till they take the next train!

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: May I know, Sir, the number of trains running without T.T.E.s in the Rajkot Division?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The total number of trains in the Rajkot Division which are carrying passengers is 154. Of these, 59 trains have permanent staff accompanying them. On other trains the T.T.E.s do not accompany every day but every other day or alternately they accompany them.

श्री चन्द्र शेखर : क्या सरकार को नार्थ ईस्टर्न रेलवे से कोई ऐसी रिपोर्ट मिली है कि वहां के टिकट एक्जामिनर्स की कोई सिक्युरिटी नहीं है और एक सेक्शन में जब रेलवे आथॉरिटीज ने लोकल आथॉरिटीज को लिखा कि उनको प्रोटेक्शन दिया जाय तो वहां के सुपरिन्टेंडेंट आफ पुलिस और डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट ने कोई भी प्रोटेक्शन देने से इन्कार कर दिया ? क्या सरकार को ऐसी कोई जानकारी प्राप्त हुई है ? अगर ऐसी जानकारी प्राप्त हुई है तो क्या इसके बारे में उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को कुछ लिखा गया ?

श्री शाह नवाज खां : जहाँ जहाँ से खबरें मिलती हैं, और जिन इलाकों में ज्यादा ला एन्ड आर्डर प्राबलम हो जाता है और जो हमारे रेलवे स्टाफ को खतरा महसूस होता है, उसके बारे में हम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को लिखते हैं। अभी तक तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स की तरफ से हमें काफी अच्छा कोऑरेशन मिला है जिसके लिये हम उन के शुक्रगुजार हैं। अगर आन-रेबिल मेम्बर मुझे कोई खास मुकाम ऐसा बतायें जहाँ से उन्हें शिकायत मिली है तो मैं मालूम करूंगा।

Re. Starred Question No. 227

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: I would like to raise a point of order on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: On what? On this question?

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Yes. This question is concerned, if you go through the question, with either the Ministry of External Affairs or the Ministry of Defence. This question has nothing to do with the Ministry of Transport and Communications. I will read the question:

“(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Pakistan has recently entered into an air agreement with the Government of China; and . . .”

Only the Ministry of External Affairs can answer this . . .

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: There is no point of order, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not consider it a point of order. Any Minister can reply.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ : . . . “(b) if so, what will be the effects of such an agreement on the security of India?”

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any Minister can reply to any question. I am not ready to discuss it. Shri Krishan Dutt—Question No. 227.

AIR AGREEMENT BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND CHINA

*227. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Pakistan has recently entered into an air agreement with the Government of China; and

(b) if so, what will be the effects of such an agreement on the security of India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): (a) We have no information other than what has appeared in the newspaper.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: The Minister has just said that he has no other information apart from the newspaper report, but the newspaper says that Pakistan and China have entered into an air agreement and the planes carrying Chinese passengers are to be flown over our territory which the Government has prohibited. May I know what the Government proposes to do in the matter?

MR. CHAIRMAN: But you say that they have prohibited.

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: Nothing is to be done at present till an approach is made by the party concerned for giving them the right to over-fly the country. When that approach is made, the requisite steps will be taken.

SHRI BIREN ROY: Both India and Pakistan being Members of the I. C. A. O., I would like to know how the Government will deal with the problem of over-flying of any passenger in civilian clothes by the Pakistan air planes unless there is a question of stopping the Pakistani plane on other Indian airports and coming to a head with that country?