

RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 17th August, 1962 / the 25th
Sravana, 1884 (SaJca)

The House met at eleven of the clock,
THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

◆385. [The questioner (Shri Sitaram Jaipuria) was absent. For answer, vide Col. 1976 infra.]

PROPOSAL TO MAKE GANGES NAVIGABLE FROM KANPUR TO HOOGHLY

◆386. DR. JAWAHARLAL ROHATGI: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating to make the river Ganges navigable from Kanpur to Hooghly for the transportation of coal and other material on mechanised barges?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND
COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):
A statement containing the required
information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.
STATEMENT

The river Ganga is navigable from Patna downstream for a minimum draft of 4 to 5 ft. Between Patna and Allahabad, a minimum draft of 4 ft. is available in rainy season which gets reduced to 3 ft. in December, with further reduction in April and May especially between Allahabad and Sirsa. From Allahabad to Kanpur the river is navigable for boats with a draft of 3 ft. at mid-water stage and by boats having a draft of 3 ft. at low water stage.

At present there is no scheme to improve the navigability of the river Ganga between Kanpur and Allahabad. The U.P. Government propose under the Third Five Year Plan, to undertake bandalling on the river from Allahabad to U.P. Border on the Patna route. The Bihar Government

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have been undertaking conservancy work in the river from Buxar to Rajmahal. Ganja Brahmaputra Water Transport Board sanctions grants to the State Government for the purpose.

DR. JAWAHARLAL ROHATGI: I would like to know whether the Government is contemplating to give more attention to the use of water passages.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Madam, that is our intention.

STICKING UP OF TUG AND PASSENGER FLAT BETWEEN PALEZAGHAT AND MAHENDRUGHAT

◆387. SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one tug and a passenger flat got stuck up in the sands last year between Palezaghat and Mahendraghat of the North Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, whether they have been taken out by now; and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the extent of loss the Railway has suffered so far on account of the grounding of the above tug and the flat?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SMA SHAH
NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Madam. One steam
tug was grounded on 6-10-1961 and a
passenger flat on 28-10-1961.

(b) Yes, Madam. The passenger flat was refloated on 28-7-1962 and steam tug on 30-7-1962.

(c) Loss to the extent of Rs. 34,000 has been suffered on this account.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: May I know why they took so much time to take it out?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Madam, the main reason was the age of water. There was ver