

fees. Therefore, it is a source of revenue for the Government. In that case why should there be any restriction imposed on registrations?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: That is necessary in view of the loading capacity of the station. We do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by allowing unrestricted registration to such a degree that it will be beyond all limits of the loading capacity of that particular station.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: What I mean to say is this. Just because an individual registers his name, it does not mean that he is entitled for allotment of wagons. It depends upon the peculiar circumstances of the situation. Even in that case when he is willing to pay the amount of registration fee, why should he not be allowed to register his name? He may lose his money if he does not get the wagon or if he does not utilise the wagon.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I concede that there is some meat in what the hon. Member says and as a matter of experiment we have allowed unrestricted registration at certain stations.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: When there is a registration in the name of a certain man and he sells the registration number to another man, is there any check from the Government?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Generally no change is allowed.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Suppose a certain man comes and registers his name as a businessman and in his name the wagon has been registered. Subsequently, he resells it to another man and makes a profit on that wagon. The second man comes and takes the wagon.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Transfer of wagons from one name to

another is irregular and is not permitted.

UNAUTHORISED PULLING OF ALARM CHAINS IN TRAINS ON NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

***16. SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of instances of unauthorised pulling of alarm chains in trains on the North-Eastern Railway during the months of January and February, 1961; and

(b) whether any action was taken against the persons responsible for such acts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY):

(a) January 1961—1372. February 1961—1114.

(b) Yes, Sir. Persons detected were prosecuted.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know what was the result of the prosecution?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: They were acquitted.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Out of so many cases mentioned by the hon. Minister, against how many people was action taken?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Two were apprehended, two were prosecuted and those two were acquitted.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I think the hon. Minister stated that the cases of unauthorised alarm chain pulling were in thousands. May I know, Sir, whether action was taken only against two persons?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Yes, Sir. That is because public co-operation is not forthcoming. (Interruptions.) I have not completed. When an alarm chain is pulled we know in which carriage the alarm chain is pulled. When the guard goes there

and asks the people who pulled the chain, nobody discloses who pulled it. So, we are at a loss to find out who exactly did it. Unless public co-operation comes forth, it is difficult to apprehend these people.

SHRI D A MIRZA Chain pulling is done by goondas. If the public try to co-operate, they are hampered. I want to know what steps are being taken by the Railway Ministry to get the co-operation of the State Government. This is a law and order question and it concerns the State Governments. I want to know what steps are being taken to get the co-operation of the State Governments in this matter. As matters stand, it is quite possible that no steps are being taken at all and as law and order belongs to the States, they remain quite inactive about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN First of all, you object to the statement that those who pull the chains are goondas.

SHRI S V RAMASWAMY Sometimes very respectable persons pull the chains. It is wrong to say that we have not taken any steps. We have taken a number of steps. For instance, we have taken the students to the control office and showed them how if they pull the chain trains run out of schedule and how their punctuality is affected. We have addressed the headmasters and principals. We have carried out a publicity campaign. We have addressed the State Police. We have done all these and more. But the main thing is public co-operation. People must realise their civic responsibility and come forward and disclose the culprits.

SHRI D A MIRZA What protection is given? I want to know that.

MR. CHAIRMAN Please sit down.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN The North Eastern Railway runs through Assam, Bengal, Bihar and UP. Out of these four States, may I know in which State was the unauthorised pulling largest?

MR. CHAIRMAN He says the Railway Minister's State.

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM The city from which the hon. Member comes finds a place of honour in that list.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know what reason the Magistrate has given for the acquittal of these two persons?

SHRI S V RAMASWAMY I have not got the particulars.

SHRIMATI T NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI May I know, Sir, what steps are being taken by the Railway Ministry and the Railway Administrations to secure firmly the co-operation of the public in this matter? What steps have they taken? Then, they go and blank off the alarm chain? What justification have they got for doing that? I want an answer to both these questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN What steps have you taken to appeal to the people and get their co-operation? Because there are these chain pullings, you blank off the whole thing. Is it fair? These are the two questions the lady has put.

SHRI S V RAMASWAMY I have already given the various steps that we have taken. It is not a pleasure to us to blank off these chains. It is only in the last resort we have done it when nothing else could be done. For instance.

MR. CHAIRMAN It is all right. Please do not read.

SHRI D A MIRZA My question still remains unanswered.

MR. CHAIRMAN Next question.

SALE OF FOODSTUFFS BY Rehriwalas IN NEW DELHI

***17. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN** Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state—