

RAJYA SABHA

*Monday, the 13th March, 1961/the
22nd Phalgun, 1882 (Saka)*

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CLOCK AT THE NEW DELHI RAILWAY STATION

*384. SHRI ABDUL RAHIM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any railway stations in the country other than New Delhi where the numerals in the dial of the clocks on the platforms have been changed into Hindi; and

(b) whether Government propose to change the numerals in the dial of the clock at New Delhi Railway Station into the international form of numerals?

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

(a) This information is not readily available.

(b) The Hindi numerals in the dial of the main clock at New Delhi Railway Station have already been changed to the international numerals.

SHRI ABDUL RAHIM: May I know, Sir, since when these numerals have been changed?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Sir, there was a question in the other House in December, 1960. I think action was taken subsequently. It must have been done a month or so ago.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know if these clocks on the platforms are meant for ordinary people or for educated people only?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: For all people, Sir.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Then why not have Hindi numerals? Ordinary people understand Hindi numerals better than English numerals.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: He should not forget, Sir, that there are foreigners also who want to have a look at these clocks.

SHRI ABDUL RAHIM: Does the changing of numerals in the clock at the platform come under the amenities proposed for passengers?

(No reply.)

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: How many foreigners come there as compared to Indians?

AN HON. MEMBER: Not all Indians know Hindi.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know, Sir, if the policies and actions of Government of India are conditioned by considerations for foreigners or for the large mass of Indian people?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: That is one of the considerations, Sir.

SINKING OF INDIAN SHIPS

*385. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of Indian ships which sank during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): During the year 1960 only one Indian ship named s.s. "Savitri" was lost by sinking.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether this ship sank because of some accident or because of some inner defect in it?