

**SUSPENSION OF TRAIN SERVICE BETWEEN
FURKATING AND LUMDING**

♦71. SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the train service between Furkating and Lumding has been suspended with effect from the 1st of June, 1960 due to disruptive activities of the Naga hostiles;

(b) the number of railway officers who have so far been injured or killed due to the firing at running trains by the Naga hostiles;

(c) whether it is a fact that the railway employees gave a representation to the General Manager that they are prepared to work in that Section if they are provided with necessary protection; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir. Train services, though considerably dislocated, were operated on a restricted scale as was possible under the circumstances.

(b) Two drivers, two firemen and a guard received bullet injuries, and a fireman was killed as a result of firing by Naga hostiles on two goods trains on May 24 and June 1.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Steps were taken immediately to make the affected area safe by intensifying patrolling, by setting up outposts to protect vulnerable spots, by providing armed personnel on trains and at stations, by clearing jungles on either side of the track for increasing visibility, and by providing steel plates in engines and sand bags in brake vans as safeguard against bullets.

SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: May I know, Sir, how much compensation has been given to the bereaved families and to the injured persons?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir., compensation is paid in accordance with the Workmen's Compensation Act. In the case of persons who were injured, the injuries were not, fortunately, of a very serious nature and they were given some *ex-gratia* payments when they were in the hospital. In respect of the person who died, his widow has been granted a sum of Rs. 10,000- to be paid to her in the form of an annuity.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know, Sir, if Government is thinking of giving some training to railway people and equipping them with some firearm for self-defence?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No..

श्री राम सहाय : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जब से भारत सरकार ने नागालैंड बनाने की घोषणा की है तब से इस प्रकार की वारदातों में कोई कमी हुई है; और क्या इसके कम होने की सूचना मिली है ?

श्री जगजीवन राम : जून के बाद तो कोई वाकया हुआ ही नहीं है और उसके पहले भी कोई वाकया नहीं हुआ था ।

**FAMILIES AFFECTED AT PANDIT, AMU GAON
AND GAUHATI DUE TO NEW ALIGNMENT OF
RAILWAY LINE**

*72. SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of families affected at Pandu, Amingaon and Gauhati by the new alignment of the railway line for Brahmaputra Bridge Approach;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the people have not got their compensation till now although their lands have already been taken possession of by Government; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the reason for this delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) In all, homestead land belonging to approx. 60 families is proposed to be acquired.

(b) Payment of compensation is made by Civil Authorities and the Railway have already deposited a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs with them as advance payment for compensation. So far the Railways have taken possession of only 355 acres out of 728 acres required.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: Are the Government aware that the affected families are subjected to further loss in respect of purchase of alternative land which will cost about double the price after a lapse of one year or so in view of the rapid rise in the value of land in that area, and whether this aspect of the problem will be considered at the time of paying compensation?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: What the hon. Member means is that the payment of compensation should be expedited. I will request the hon. Member to take up the question with the State Government. As has already been stated, we have deposited money in advance with the State Government and it is for the State Government to expedite the payment of compensation for the land acquired.

CONGESTION IN THE RAILWAY GOODS SHEDS IN DELHI

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great congestion in the various railway goods sheds in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this congestion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY¹): (a) and (b) Except for a few periods at New Delhi Mineral

and Delhi Main, there was no congestion at the various goods sheds in Delhi.

The congestion at New Delhi Mineral Sidings, was for short periods between December 1959 and April 1960 due to the removal of soft coke consignments by the merchants not keeping pace with the arrival of wagons.

At Delhi there was congestion during certain periods between June 1959 and January 1960 due to considerable delay in release of dry fruits consignments from Afghanistan by the customs authorities.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know, Sir, what steps Government have taken to remove the congestion which still persists?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: This congestion was exceptional. For instance, the mineral siding was congested because the merchants would not clear the stock. As regards dry fruits, the customs would not release. These are all exceptional circumstances. Normally we have adequate facility for handling these goods traffic. The position is now considerably improved.

DERAILMENT OF THE 16 DOWN VARANASI EXPRESS

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the 16 Down Varanasi Express was derailed in the first week of May 1960, at about 100 miles from Howrah; and

(b) if so, what are the causes of the derailment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes. On 2nd May, 1960, 16 Down Varanasi Express derailed between Rajbandh and Birudiha Block Hut of the Eastern Railway.

(b) The cause of the accident is under investigation.