

REPRESENTATION REGARDING DISTRIBUTION OF LETTERS AT GOHANA

*245. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION: be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the residents of Gohana, District Rohtak, Punjab to the effect that the arrangement made for the distribution of letters etc. at Gohana, is not satisfactory and the public have to stand in line for hours for getting their letters;

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

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. P. SUBBARAYAN): (a) No. Only a representation urging delivery of mails earlier than 14 hours, the present time of delivery, in Gohana Mandi area was received.

(b) Revised arrangements have been made under which mails will be delivered two hours earlier.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, the number of postmen appointed at Gohana?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: Sir, I haven't got that figure with me now.

CAPSIZING OF GOODS WAGONS BETWEEN KANALUS AND SIKA RAILWAY STATIONS

*246. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 25 goods wagons capsized between Kanalus and Sika railway stations on the Rajkot Okha section of the Rajkot Division on the 3rd May, 1960;

(b) if so, what are the causes of this accident; and

(c) what is the extent of damage caused to life and property as a result of the accident?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir, but only 19 wagons of the goods train got derailed and capsized and not 25.

(b) Failure of railway staff.

(c) There were no casualties. The approximate cost of damage to railway property has been estimated at Rs. 25,000.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Is it a fact, Sir, that such capsizing takes place at that place every year?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No, Sir.

COLLISION OF A SHUNTING ENGINE WITH PASSENGER BOGIES AT HARDWAR RAILWAY STATION

*247. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a shunting engine collided with passenger bogies standing in the Hardwar railway station yard on or about the 22nd May, 1960;

(b) if so, what are the details of the collision and how many passengers were injured or killed;

(c) how many bogies were damaged in this collision;

(d) whether any medical aid was given to the injured; and

(e) what compensation Government are giving to the injured?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) On 20th May, 1960 (and not on 22nd May, 1960) at about 12-55 hours, engine of No. 5 Hardwar-Rishikesh Mixed train entered a wrong line at Hardwar station and bumped against one of the passenger coaches standing on that line. As a result, thirteen persons sustained minor injuries.

(c) One.

(d) Yes.

(e) Claims for compensation will be decided on merits by the *Ex-Officio* Claims Commissioner, Saharanpur.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know whether an enquiry was made in the matter and, if so, who made the enquiry?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: An enquiry was made by an Enquiry Committee and the accident was found to be due to wrong setting of points by the Cabin-man.

*248. [For answer, vide cols. 1083-84 infra.]

MANUFACTURE OF DIESEL ELECTRIC AND DIESEL HYDRAULIC LOCOMOTIVES

*249. **DR. A. SUBBA RAO:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 77 in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have since finalised plans for the manufacture in India of diesel electric and diesel hydraulic locomotives; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the plans?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN):

(a) The plans are still under consideration of the Government.

(b) Three indigenous firms have submitted their schemes for manufacture of diesel locomotive and diesel engines in the country in collaboration with foreign firms.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know whether it is a fact that three companies, namely, the National Engineering Corporation, the Textile Machinery Corporation and the Tata Locomotive Engineering Company have been selected to manufacture these diesel engines by the Railway Ministry?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: Nobody has been selected. The entire scheme is under consideration.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know whether the Planning Commission have recommended the manufacture of these diesel locomotives in the public sector and the Railway Ministry is in favour of the private sector?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: Whenever any proposal is finalised, the different Ministries concerned and the Planning Commission are consulted and it is only after that that the final decision is taken.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know whether it is not possible to manufacture these diesel locomotives in the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works itself rather than give it to the private sector?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what he said. He gave the answer that all sides of the question would be discussed and a final decision taken.

FORMATION OF WESTERN FOOD ZONE

*250. **SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to form a Western Food Zone comprising of Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, when the decision is expected to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The question of forming a Western Food Zone consisting of the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan is under consideration and no decision has yet been arrived at.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know how much period will be required to decide it?