

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: No, Sir.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether any agenda is under consideration for the Seminar?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: As a matter of fact, all these matters are yet under consideration, and it is too early now to say anything about that

DETENTION OF A COUPLE AT JHALAWAR ROAD RAILWAY STATION BY RAILWAY AUTHORITIES

f SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: % |
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:
•171. <(SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: (—
SHRI VIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a young couple was detained by the railway authorities at Jhalawar Road railway station on the 31st March, 1960 and the woman was criminally assaulted by the railway staff and the railway protection force staff;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps have been taken against the railway employees concerned; and

(c) whether Government have received any representations for the removal of the station master and other railway staff from this station as a result of this incident?

THE DEPUTY' MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The couple was detained by 2 G.R.P. constables and not by railway staff or the R.P.F. staff of Jhalawar Road station.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. P. Bhargava.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether it is in the knowledge of the hon. Minister that the couple came from Chambal Dam and that they were refused tickets when they approached the counter for purchasing tickets?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No, Sir; they had tickets in their possession.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir whether it is a fact that some of the railway people questioned the man whether the woman accompanying him was his wife?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: It was not the railway staff but—as I have said—they were two constables of the G.R.P. who questioned them.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that some of the railway people questioned the man whether the woman accompanying him was his wife?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No, Sir, that is not our information.

SHRI JASPAT ROY KAPOOR: May I know, Sir, whether the railway staff came to the rescue of this couple?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: When they came to know of this, they did so.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: May I know, Sir, whether the railway authorities have no responsibility in this affair?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, I do not see how the responsibility of the railway comes in this. There was a couple lying in the third-class waiting hall and some police constables misbehaved towards them. I do not quite see how the railway comes in.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: The hon. Minister said that the incident occurred in the third-class waiting hall. Is not the waiting hall part of the premises of the railway station?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, although it occurred within the railway premises, the responsibility for maintenance of law and order and for dealing with crime is that of the police and I may say, Sir, that the two culprits have been arrested, and the case is under police investigation.

SHRI JASPAT ROY KAPOOR: May I know, Sir, which of the railway staff came to the rescue of this couple?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I shall require a separate notice for giving details.

SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: May I know, Sir, whether the waiting hall outside the booking office is under the jurisdiction of the Railway Protection Force or under the supervision of the District police?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Even within the railway station itself, the question of maintaining law and order and prevention of crime against passengers is the responsibility of the police. G.R.P. is also under the State Government.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask with your permission as to what statement was made by the woman and her husband in respect of the assault made on the woman? Did the statement implicate any railway official?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No, Sir. The statement, as far as I am aware, implicated only the constables who have since been arrested.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know, Sir, if railway servants and railway officers are absolved of the general responsibility cast on every citizen to prevent commission of offences?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What the hon. Member says is: Did they observe the ordinary laws of humanity even though they may not be directly responsible? That is what he asks.

(No reply)

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DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Is the station master not the supervising authority?

(No reply)

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether it is also a fact that a similar incident occurred at the same railway station about three months back?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I am not aware of that.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: May I know, Sir, whether the station master is not responsible for such heinous offences taking place inside the premises of the railway station?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I fully appreciate the sentiments of the House and I fully agree that it is a very regrettable incident, but the responsibility of the station master is to look after the operation of trains . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Look here. Do not get excited. The Deputy Minister is still on his feet.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I was submitting, Sir, that it is not the responsibility of the station master to go round patrolling third class passenger halls.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: May I know, Sir, if the Government Railway Protection Force in such matters is not under the control and jurisdiction of the railway authorities?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No, Sir. They come directly under the control of the State Government.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: Sir, when we go to a railway station, we are under the impression that our life and property will be protected. I do not know which authority is going to protect us. May I know, Sir, what arrangements

»re being made for the co-ordination of the two authorities to safeguard the life and property of passengers?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: In the matter of a crime taking place, the only action that any force—whether it is the State police or the Railway Protection Force—can take is to arrest the person involved and bring him before the law court and allow the latter to deal with him. We have done that.

ADVERTISEMENTS TO THE JOURNAL "NEW AGE"

*172. DR. A. SUBBA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether any instructions have been issued to the effect that "New Age", a weekly journal published from De hi, should not be given any advertisements;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are aware that the "New Age" is on the approved list of journals of the Directorate of Adverting and Visual Publicity, under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the purpose of their advertisements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government in the Ministry of Railways are aware that the "New Age" is being used for Government advertisements released through the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know, Sir, whether political considerations weigh with the railway authorities while giving advertisements to the papers, and whether papers with different political views are discriminated against?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: No, Sir. Political considerations do not come into play in these decisions.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: Then, may I know, Sir, the reason why advertisement has not been given to this weekly, "New Age", for the past 2½ years in spite of its fulfilling all the conditions entitling it for advertisements?

MR. CHAIRMAN: His answer was that the Government in the Ministry of Railways are aware that the "New Age" is being used for Government advertisements.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: As the hon. Minister is aware, the Directorate of Visual Publicity is giving advertisement for different papers. We want to know why the Railways have not advertised in the "New Age" for the past 2½ years in spite of the fact that it has fulfilled all the conditions entitling it for advertisements.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: Sir, railway advertisements are normally planned and released by the Zonal Railway Administrations who have got all the particulars of a paper. As and when the occasion arises, according to the funds available they give advertisements. In this case an occasion has not arisen to utilise the services of the "New Age".

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANCILLARY INDUSTRIES RELATING TO SHIP-BUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRS

*173. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the main recommendations contained in the first report of the Advisory Committee on Ancillary Industries relating to ship-building and ship-repairs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : A statement showing the main recommendations of the Committee is laid on the Table of the Sabha.