

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) The Government have not received any such representation from the Council.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

TOOFAN EXPRESS

***337. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of running the Toofan Express from Mathura to Agra City without touching other stations of Agra has been examined; and

(b) whether it is a fact that, if the above route is adopted, the running time of the Toofan Express can be reduced by over an hour?

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

(a) and (b) Toofan Expresses, at present, run on the Mathura-Tundla section via Rajaki-Mandi, Agra Cantt. and Agra Fort. Diversion of these trains via Raja-ki-Mandi and Agra City is not feasible as the existing layout of tracks in the Agra area does not permit of a train being diverted from Agra City to Raja-ki-Mandi, by-passing Agra Cantt. station.

As it is not possible to bypass Agra Cantt., the diversion of these trains via Agra City will result in an increase in the journey time and not in any reduction.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK

***338. SHRI B. N. BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Panchayats in some States deposit their funds in Post Office Savings Bank and they have to face great hardship in withdrawing money due to complications and restrictions imposed by the post-masters concerned;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Panchayats in some States have closed their accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank; and

(c) whether Government propose to make enquiries in the matter and take suitable action?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. P. SUBBARAYAN):

(a) Under Post Office Savings Bank Rules, a Panchayat can open a Public Savings Bank account and deposit money in it. Postmasters cannot on their own authority impose any restrictions on withdrawals.

(b) I have no information about such closing of accounts by Panchayats.

(c) Does not arise.

SHEDS ON THE PLATFORMS OF RAILWAY STATIONS ON THE JHANSI-MANIKPUR RAILWAY LINE

***339. SHRI B. N. BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct sheds on the platforms of the railway stations on the Jhansi-Manikpur railway line in the near future; and

(b) if so, at which stations?

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

(a) Yes, Sir, wherever they are justified subject to availability of funds.

(b) Barwa Sagar and Mauranipur Stations are under consideration.

***340. [Transferred to the 26th April, 1960.]**

"GRADE A" FIREMEN WORKING AT LUCKNOW

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

(a) whether it is a fact that some "Grade A" Firemen working at Lucknow were dismissed in 1956;