

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN):

(a) to (c). The Pudiyangadi Fishermen's Union, Kozhikode have represented that they should not be uprooted from their lands and that Government should drop the proposal to acquire the sites in the fishermen's colony and select some other site for the proposed aerodrome. The apprehensions of the Fishermen's Union seem to be unfounded as the site tentatively selected for the proposed aerodrome is not located near the fishermen's colony. The Union have already been informed to this effect.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: May I know, Sir, if the site is actually selected there, whether alternative accommodation would be found for these fishermen?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I have stated that the site that has been tentatively selected for the aerodrome may not extend to the existing fishermen's colony.

DR. A. N. BOSE: How far is it away from the fishermen's colony? What is the distance of the proposed site from the fishermen's colony?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I am not aware of the distance. But I am informed that the tentative site is not expected to cover the fishermen's colony.

DR. A. N. BOSE: There may be extension of an aerodrome site.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Later on.

DR. A. N. BOSE: It very often happens that after a site is selected, it is extended. So, the apprehension might be legitimate that the pro-

posed site might be extended to the site of the fishermen's colony.

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: The extension might come at a very later date if at all.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: The point is the tentative decision may be final; only these people should be found alternative accommodation.

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: That is a suggestion. We will consider that if necessary.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN AGAINST RAILWAY EMPLOYEES OF SEALDAH

J DR. Z. A. AHMAD: ^{d or} \SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA*:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether disciplinary action has recently been taken against any employees of (i) the carriage and wagoa department, (ii) the engineering department and (iii) the loco department of Sealdah, Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of the action taken in respect of each of the above categories?

* THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAM): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

iThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bhupesh Gupta.

Department	Name of employee and designation	Nature of action taken
I. Carriage & Wagon Department.	(a) Shri Monaranjan Mukherjee, Wheel Gauger.	Removed from service with effect from 9-9-1958.
	(b) Shri Jatindra Nath Bose, Carriage Fitter.	Removed from service with effect from 9-9-1958.
	(c) Shri Narayan Ch. Bose, Peon.	Removed from service with effect from 19-9-58.
	(d) Shri Dharamdeo	Removed from service with effect from 9-9-1958.
	(e) Shri Naresh Ch. Dutta, Fitter.	Removed from service with effect from 9-9-1958.
II. Loco Department	(a) Shri G. N. Sarkar, Shunter.	The punishment given was 'withholding of increment for two years'.
	(b) Shri A. K. Das, Cleaner	
	(c) Shri Dasarathi Ghosh, Fuel Checker.	Removed from service with effect from 20-5-58.
III. Engineering Department.	(a) Shri Kalidas Chatterjee, Mate.	Increment stopped for 3 years.
	(b) Shri Benode, Mate	Increment stopped for 2 years.
	(c) Shri Purushottam Dhal, Mate.	
	(d) Shri Sukhai, Mate	Ditto

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: From the statement it appears that five employees from the Carriage and Wagon Department, three from the Loco Department and four from the Engineering Department have been given punishment. Disciplinary action has been taken against them. May I know, Sir, the reason why such disciplinary action had been taken in a period of six months against all these people?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: In the case of most of these people proceedings were instituted against them for causing obstruction to train operation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to the fact or whether he is otherwise aware that most of them are in one way or the other connected with the trade union movement and trade union activities and that the reasons for such disciplinary action had been such activities? 121 R.S.D.—2.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Even if they are—I am not aware whether they are connected with trade union activities or not—a person who is connected with trade union activities has no right to obstruct the operation of trains.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am not a king for that. That I know. The Minister has not the right to unnecessarily suspend people. That is not the point. I want to know from the Minister whether he is aware that some of these people at least have been office-bearers of some trade union organisation—there, and whether in the matter of taking such action, any consultation took place with the representatives of the trade union organisations. If not, why not?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: No, Sir. An employee, so far as his duties are concerned, is not immune from his responsibilities simply because he happens to be an office-bearer or a member of a particular trade union. And if he violates the rules and does not discharge his duties, disciplinary

action will be taken against him and in this matter no trade union will be consulted.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the action was taken on the basis of certain secret police report sent to the authorities concerned, and if he denies it, would the Government be prepared at least to take you, Sir, into confidence and tell you the other reasons, the reports on the basis of which the action had been taken?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: The hon. Member is grossly misinformed. The actions were taken for dereliction of duty and not on police report. This was a regular disciplinary action, proceedings were taken against them and they were punished.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that in certain cases where disciplinary action is sought to be taken for trade union activities, the Government usually, the authorities usually, have recourse to concocting some charges such as these?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: I repudiate the insinuation that any action was taken on account of trade union activities. The action was taken for dereliction of duty and they were suitably punished.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: May I know, Sir, whether the process of asking for their explanation, etc. was observed?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: Yes, Sir. It was a regular disciplinary proceeding and action was taken against them.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what was the dereliction of duty in this particular case.

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: As it has already been informed by the Deputy Minister, in every case they tried to obstruct the running of the trains.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: Was there any accident on that day and one worker was killed? Because of the death of one worker, there was a demonstration by the railway workers on that particular day.

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: I cannot relate it to that. If there was one incident where one worker was killed, there cannot be dereliction of duty on the part of the other employees.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: Is it not because of the mismanagement of the supervisory officials that the accident occurred and one worker died while he was working there under the wagon?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: I repudiate the insinuation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Everything is insinuation. May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister has considered any replies from these workers and whether he is otherwise aware that it was because of this alleged demonstration on the part of these people that action was taken against them? If he is not aware of anything, would he be good enough to make enquiries, find out the papers, together with the explanation of the people so victimised, and at least place them before you?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: The hon. Member is aware of only one side of the story. I am aware of all the aspects of the full story. No further enquiry is necessary. It was not on account of the demonstration that they were punished, but they were punished on account of the failure to discharge their duties.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

PRESERVATION OF WILD LIFE

*307. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps which are being taken by Government and Government-aided