

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

BREACHES IN THE RAILWAY TRACK BETWEEN GUDUR AND MADRAS

1. SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (ON BEHALF OF SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN) : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the breaches which occurred in the railway track between Gudur and Madras on the Southern Railway;

(b) if so, what is the extent of the damage done to the railway property; and

(c) by what time Government hope to have the track cleared up for regular traffic?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Due to heavy and incessant rains from 3rd to 5th November 1957, water overflowed the track at many places between Tada and Nayudupeta stations on the Madras-Gudur section of the Southern Railway resulting in the interruption of through communication from the afternoon of 4th November 1957. Damage was caused both to the track and bridges on the Akkampet-Sullurupeta - Nayudupeta Section of the Madras-Bezawada line on 4th November, 1957 and estimated cost of damage is about Rs. 2.5 lacs.

(c) Through running was restored and normal traffic resumed at 7-30 hours on 20th November 1957.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know for how many days, and the number of passengers who were marooned at Sullurupeta Station?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I cannot give the exact number, but something like 400 to 500 passengers were marooned, because on both sides there were very serious breaches. We tried to get to them, but we could not do so because of the very heavy

floods. We were able to reach them after about two days.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know whether any such branches had occurred before at the same place and if so, why had not the Railway taken precautionary measures in keeping the line safe?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I do not think breaches of this kind had occurred on this line before, Sir.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INCREASE IN OUTLAY FOR RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT IN SECOND PLAN

*158. SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outlay for Railway development during the Second Five Year Plan has been increased recently;

(b) if so, by what amount; and

(c) whether this enhanced allotment will suffice to attain the original target of 181 million tons; carrying capacity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RICE MILLING COMMITTEE

*159. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government to implement such of the recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee for the encouragement of production of handpounded rice which have been accepted by Government;

(b) whether all the State Governments are keeping pace with the Government of India in such measures; and

(c) which State Governments have declined to do so and why?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a), (b) and (c). The State Governments have been informed of the decisions of the Government of India on the recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee and they are taking steps to implement them.

•MAXIMUM STANDARD FOR RICE MILLING

*160. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether the maximum standard for rice milling with regard to polish as laid down by Government applies to imported rice also?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): No, Sir.

THE 'ANDAMAN'

*168. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'Andaman', the newly built passenger-cum-cargo vessel in the Hindustan Shipyard Private Ltd., listed dangerously when floated;

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

(c) whether any enquiry has been held into the circumstances in which this serious defect occurred to the vessel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, after the construction of 'Andaman' was completed it was discovered that the ship would be deficient in stability.

(b) and (c). A committee has been appointed to enquire into the circumstances leading to the defect in the vessel, to fix the responsibility therefor and to suggest measures to prevent recurrence of such defects.

TENDERS FOR DIESEL GENERATING SETS

*169. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any tenders from the various countries for the supply of 98 diesel generating sets;

(b) if so, what was the lowest tendered rate; and

(c) whether the purchase has since been made?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

PURCHASE OF METRE-GAUGE AND NARROW-GAUGE BOILERS

*170. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently purchased six metre-gauge boilers and four narrow-gauge boilers; and

(b) if so, at what cost?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

COORDINATED PROGRAMME FOR THE CONVERSION OF NATIONAL EXTENSION SERVICE AND MULTIPURPOSE PROJECTS INTO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCKS

♦171. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any coordinated programme for converting a number of national extension