

Sarangpur stations on Ahmedabad-Botad section of the Western Railway on or about July 24 1957; and if so, what were the reasons for the accident?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): Yes, on 25th July 1957. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: How did the train happen to run without any man in it—the locomotive?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Actually it was being attended to in the loco shed and after it had been tuned and everything seen to, then I do not know how it happened.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DISCONTINUANCE OF RUNNING OF TRAINS ON THE VARANASI-CHUPRA SECTION OF THE NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

1. SHRI B. B. SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the running of trains on the Varanasi-Chupra Section of the North Eastern Railway has been discontinued due to the line between Suraimanpur and Reoti having been damaged; and

(b) whether it is a fact that this line has been damaged on account of erosion caused by the river and if so, what steps Government are taking to protect the line?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) The through running of trains on the Aunrihar-Chupra Section has been suspended from 11.00 hours on 4th August 1957, due to the breach in the railway bank between Suraimanpur and Reoti.

(b) Yes. The portion of the bank so far exposed against erosion is being strengthened by boulder pitching.

श्री बी० बी० शर्मा : यह इरोजन कब शुरू हुआ था ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : यह इरोजन तो पहली अगस्त से शुरू हो गया था ।

श्री बी० बी० शर्मा : जब यह इरोजन पार साल शुरू हुआ था उस वक्त मरम्मत के लिये कोई कार्यवाही क्यों नहीं की गई ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : जी, उस वक्त कुछ कार्यवाही तो की गई थी, वहां पत्थर बगैरा फेंके गये थे और हमने उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से भी दख्खान्त की थी कि उसमें वह हमारी कुछ सहायता करें । लेकिन उन्होंने सहायत देने में कुछ बहुत ज्यादा हमदर्दी जाहिर नहीं की ।

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : इसलिये क्या सजा दी जा रही है ।

श्री बी० बी० शर्मा : क्या इसका अभिप्राय यह है कि जो इरोजन था वह ज्यों का त्यों पड़ा हुआ था और इस साल भी उससे रक्षा के लिये कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : ऐसा तो नहीं है कि जो इरोजन शुरू हुआ था उसके लिये हमने कुछ नहीं किया । पत्थर बगैरा डाले गये हैं इरोजन को रोकने के लिये और मुनासिब कार्यवाही हमने की । लेकिन हमारी ताकत से कुदरत की ताकत ज्यादा है । पानी बहुत जल्दी बढ़ गया, और उसे रोका नहीं जा सका ।

श्री बी० बी० शर्मा : क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि जो इंजीनियर साहब वहां दरअसल मरम्मत करने के लिये तैनात किये गये थे उन्होंने उस स्थान पर बालू बौरा फिक्काया जहां पर इरोजन का खतरा नहीं था बल्कि दुर्जनपुर गांव जहां पर उसका डर था, वहां पर लोगों के कहने बावजूद भी बालू बौरा नहीं डलवाया ।

श्री शाहनवाज खां : एक जरा मुश्किल सवाल यह होता है कि जो इंजीनियर वहां पर तैनात किये जाते हैं वे खुद अपनी अक्ल के मुताबिक काम करते हैं क्योंकि वे टेक्निकी ट्रेंड आदमी होते हैं और हर एक आदमी की जो राय हो उसके ऊपर इंजीनियर का चलना शायद हर मौके पर मुमकिन न हो।

श्री बी० बी० शर्मा : क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि जहां दुर्जनपुर गांव से नदी का कटाव शुरू हुआ था वह कटाव ज्यों का त्यों बना हुआ है और इस साल बाढ़ के पानी से वहां काफी भीषण प्रकोप हो गया है और रेल लाइन का चलना बन्द हो गया है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : इस बात को पहले से ही तय करना कि दरिया अगले साल क्या करेगा, मेरे ह्याल में उस गांव के लोग भी बहुत सही राय नहीं दे सकते हैं इस मामले में।

THREAT TO DELHI WATER SUPPLY ON ACCOUNT OF FLOODS IN THE JAMUNA

2. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any truth in "the Press report to the effect that Delhi is being threatened with shortage of water. supply owing to the Jamuna floods having silted up the channel feeding the water work;

(b) if so, whether any detailed investigation in the matter has been undertaken by Government;

(c) whether there is any danger of contamination of water, as a result of the silt formation; and

(d) what precautionary measures Government have taken or propose to take to ensure normal water supply.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) A warning was issued by the Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board that the river was fast receding and water supply might

have to be restricted temporarily in case it became necessary to dig a channel to bring water to the intake.

(b) Detailed investigations have been carried out at the Central Water Research Station, Poona and they have suggested the construction of a pitched guide-bank and a weir across the river. The guide-bank has been completed and the weir is likely to be completed during the course of two years;

(c) This phenomenon is not likely to contaminate the water supply.

(d) To ensure normal water supply and to stabilise the flow a pitched guide bank has been completed and a weir across the river is being constructed. As a temporary measure, however, dredgers are employed to cut and maintain a channel to the intake wells with a large force of manual labour working day and night, when it is considered necessary.

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SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Sir, it is reported that similar threats had occurred in the previous years also. And the result was contamination. What is the assurance, Sir, that the water is not going to be contaminated?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The contamination occurred principally on account of the water of the Najafgarh Nallah flowing up during the last floods. After the floods receded, the level of the intake wells appeared to be a little lower than the level of the water flowing through the Najafgarh Nallah. Now steps have been taken to divert the flow of the Najafgarh Nallah much downstream, and therefore it can be said that there is no possibility of contamination, and silting by itself does not result in contamination.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the main stream of the river Jamuna has shifted about one thousand feet