

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Is there any relation between lowering the standard of efficiency and the accidents that are taking place in the railways?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Too far-fetched.

*180. [For answer vide cols. 27 infra.]

SALE OF BOGUS RAILWAY TICKETS

*181. **SHRI M. VALIULLA:** Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state the number of persons (i) arrested, (ii) prosecuted and (iii) convicted for selling bogus railway tickets in each railway zone in the years 1954-55 and 1955-56?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix XV, Annexure No. 48.]

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know the amount involved in the sale of bogus tickets?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, it is stated in the statement. The number of persons involved, as the hon. Member would observe, is only five and the amount is not likely to be large.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: No, no. It may be that you have arrested two or three people. That is, only two or three are involved and not more.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: That is what has come to our notice.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: When this has come to their notice, they have arrested some persons. Also, may I know whether the Government was able to find out where these bogus tickets were printed and what the nature of the tickets was?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Some of the persons who were caught had changed the date on the ticket. And another case is that the manufacture of these tickets was detected in

Calcutta. The case is now under the investigation of the police.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is any of the accused absconding, Sir?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: There is one accused. He was released on bail by the court. If he is absconding, the Railways are not responsible for that.

MANUFACTURE OF NARROW GAUGE LOCOMOTIVES IN INDIA

*182. **SHRI M. VALIULLA:** Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal under consideration for the manufacture of narrow gauge locomotives in India; and, if so, at what stage the proposal is at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): For the present, the capacity is fully taken with the building of broad gauge and metre gauge locomotives.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that there was a Committee appointed to go into this question of starting the manufacture of narrow gauge locomotives and certain types of wagons? What are the recommendations of that Committee and may I know whether the Government has accepted them?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I do not think that any Committee went into the question of manufacturing narrow gauge locomotives. At present, we are concentrating on the production of broad gauge and metre gauge locomotives in Chittaranjan and in the Telco factory. The number of narrow gauge locomotives that will be required is small and so, it is thought that it would be uneconomical to make them in the country.

SHRI T. V. KAMALASWAMY: Is it the policy of the Government to abolish narrow gauge lines altogether?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It cannot be stated that we are going to abolish them because in the absence of provision for converting them into either