

SHRI JASPAT ROY KAPOOR:
May I know when is the learned doctor coming to Delhi and what is his programme here?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Dr. Rosen came to India on a private visit, and he has been to Delhi. He is not coming here again. He has returned to his own country.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether the Government will take some steps to see that the doctor visits Delhi again so that the different Ministers and other Members of Parliament who require his help may get it? •

(No reply)

**CONSTRUCTION OF AN OVER/UNDER
BRIDGE NEAR SHORANUR RAILWAY
STATION ON SOUTHERN RAILWAY**

*388. SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on their proposal for the construction of an over or an under bridge near Shoranur Railway station on the Southern Railway; and

(b) if not, what are the difficulties in giving effect to the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). The question of providing arrangements whereby the detention at the level crossing at the Mangalore end of Shoranur Junction Station yard could be minimised or avoided was gone into in detail in 1947 at the instance of the ex-Goa Government. The proposal was however dropped, as it was found that the cost of providing an overbridge at this crossing would be prohibitive.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: May I know if the Government are aware that since that investigation the Madras Government have estimated the cost of the bridge to be Rs. 3 lakhs, and that the Panchayat Board of Shoranur has

agreed to pay half the cost? There was some correspondence in 1954.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I am not aware of the latest estimate that was worked out by the Madras Government. But I am aware that this project has been included in the plans that were submitted by the ex-Travancore-Cochin Government, and they had given it the fifth priority. It is hoped that this project will be taken up sometime in 1958 or 1959.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: In view of the Shoranur Railway Station road being the main arterial road and in view of the heavy traffic on that road, may I know if the Government will expedite construction of the bridge?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: If the matter is put up to the Government of India through the State Government, we will certainly look into that.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: Is it not an obligation on the part of the Railways to put up these overbridges or underbridges at all important railway crossings? There is a rule to that effect. I believe. May I know whether there is such an obligation on the part of the Railways?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The overbridges or underbridges are constructed wherever there is justification for them. The policy has been laid down whereby the expense of constructing such over-bridges is shared between the State Governments and the Railways. Where the State Governments show their willingness to share the expense, the Railways are always very co-operative.

**BUSES OF THE DELHI TRANSPORT
SERVICE**

♦389. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Delhi Transport Service buses plying at present in the cities of Delhi and New Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of buses are lying in the workshops for repairs for a long time; and

(c) whether, it is also a fact that a team of foreign experts was employed to go into the working of the Delhi Transport Service; and if so, with what results?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) The Delhi Transport Service has a fleet of 400 buses of which the daily average number plying on the road is at present 300.

(b) The number of buses now held in the Central Workshop for major repairs is 50.

(c) A Productivity Expert whose services have been made available to the Delhi Road Transport Authority by the International Labour Office is now giving courses to supervisory and subordinate personnel working in the Central Workshop.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know how many of these buses are new additions during the course of this year?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, I could not give him the exact number just now.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, why out of 400 buses only 300 are plying?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I do not think there is any organisation in the world which has all the hundred per cent, buses on the road. Out of 400 buses that we have, 20 buses are kept in the depots as reserve to cope with any accidents or failures, 30 buses are kept in depots for schedule servicing, 50 buses are generally in the Central Workshop under major repairs. That is the position.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Are Government aware that during the peak period of traffic there is long interval between one bus and another

bus in one route, particularly in New Delhi and Old Delhi?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Government are aware that the number of buses at present are not adequate to cope with the traffic during peak hours. We are making arrangements to acquire more buses during the next plan period.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask whether the hon. Deputy Minister has seen the Report of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Public Accounts Committee which went into this matter, whether that report has been published, and what action has been taken by the Ministry in reference to that report?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I shall require a separate notice for that question.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it not a fact that on an earlier occasion the Minister of Transport announced that by the end of 1956 adequate number of buses will be available, that the number of buses will be increased to meet the necessity?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The number of buses is increasing, but the demand for traffic is increasing in greater proportions.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether the Government had earlier announced that by the end of 1956 the Government would be in a position to meet the demands of the increasing traffic?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: We have 400 buses and we are trying to do our best to secure more. We are also trying to run a ring railway round Delhi.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: How many buses are required to meet the increased traffic?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the number of buses that is required to meet the increased traffic?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: It is very difficult to give the exact number.

SHRI G. RANGA: May I know whether Government have consulted any experts or other authorities which are also running similar buses in the U.P. and Madras and other places, whether the sickness incidence on their buses is a general one or a normal one, that is 50 out of 400? My hon. friend's estimate is that it is right to keep 20 in one place, 30 in another place and 50 on the sick list, and therefore as many as 25 per cent, of the total number of buses are not to be kept on the road.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The D.T.S. has 75 per cent, of its buses on the road. This compares favourably with similar road transport undertakings in other places.

SHRI G. RANGA : Are we to understand that they are satisfied with the present position and that they do not want to investigate whether there is anything wrong with this state of things?

(No reply)

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Is it not a fact that the Sub-Committee went into this matter and reported in detail about the working of the D.T.S. as well as this particular matter and how is it that the hon. Deputy Minister has not seen that report?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, I have seen that report. But, as I said, I want separate notice to answer questions on it.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: The hon. Deputy Minister had seen the report which contains the various mal-practices that are practised in the D.T.S. The report was published six months back. I would like to know what the Government is doing in implementing the recommendations of the report of the Sub-Committee. The report was published in June.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The report was published in June; he has seen it; but does not remember the details and he wants time. That is what he says.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Only one question, Sir. It has been already submitted that nearly Rs. 50 lakhs have been the losses incurred by the D.T.S. I would like to know what the Government has done to see that the matter is enquired into. •

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: It is a long report and many of the points that have been raised refer to the period before the present authority took over the undertaking. All the recommendations and suggestions made are being looked into by the Ministry.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, the hon. Deputy Minister stated that 50 per cent, are in the workshop for major repairs. I would like to know whether these repairs are due to accidents or normal repairs?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He did not say 50 per cent. He said 50 buses.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: 50 buses.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Some of them may be due to accidents. But certain normal major repairs are required after a certain period.

**RAILWAY BRIDGE OH GANDAK BETWEEN
HAJIPUR AND SONEPUR ON NORTH-
EASTERN RAILWAY**

*390. SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the present railway bridge on the Gandak between Hajipur and Sonepur on North-Eastern Railway was constructed;

(b) whether it is a fact that engineers have declared the bridge as having out-lived its life; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps are being taken by Government to ensure the safety of the trains going over that bridge?