

oasis of vegetations to stop the onslaught of blown sands. The work of the station is in progress.

SETTING UP OF A COMMITTEE TO STUDY DEPTHS AT MAJOR PORTS

165. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Committee to study the depths at major sea ports; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to appoint a committee, and if so, when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes. A committee consisting of the following was appointed in October 1953, to study the depths at sea ports and their entrances:—

1. The Chief Engineer, Bombay Port Trust, Bombay.
2. The Deputy Conservator, Calcutta Port Commissioners, Calcutta.
3. The Nautical Adviser to the Government of India or his nominee.
4. The Engineer-in-Chief, Light house Department or his nominee.
5. Commander H. A. Agate, I. N. Ministry of Defence.
6. Captain D. N. Mukherjee, Marine Superintendent of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company, Bombay & Co., (Madras) Ltd., Madras.

(b) Does not arise.

VISIT OF RAILWAY OFFICERS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES FOR STUDY IN ELECTRIC TRACTION

166. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any railway officers have been sent abroad to study the latest methods in electric traction;

(b) if so, which countries they will visit, how much time they will spend there and what are likely to be the expenses of this study tour; and

(c) in what particular manner the Railway Board desire to utilise the results of their study?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes, two officers of the Calcutta Electrification Project have been sent recently.

(b) They will visit, U.K., Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, France, Sweden and Italy in about 7 weeks' time. The approximate expenditure of the tour will be twenty-five thousand rupees.

(c) The officers will continue to be employed in the Calcutta Electrification Project where the experience gained by them will be of great use.

STATEMENT RE. FIRING NEAR KURNOOL

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (DR. K. N. KATJU): May I with your permission, Sir, read a statement about the firing in one of the villages near Kurnool?

On the afternoon of the 11th of December 1954, some local communists took out a procession in village Gargeyapuram, eight miles from Kurnool, in order to prepare the ground for a meeting scheduled for the same night. The processionists numbered about a hundred. At about 3-30 p.m. the procession entered a lane in the village in which were situated the houses of people who did not support the communists. The processionists began to hurl obscene abuses at the residents of the locality. This was resented and the residents requested the processionists to desist from such abuse.

A head constable who along with four constables had been deputed on duty in the village in connection with a festival from the 9th instant turned up at the place and apprehending a breach of the peace advised the processionists not to proceed further on into that lane. The processionists, however, paid no attention to the head constable and instead climbed on to the terraces of the houses which were made of mud and stones and started pelting stones at the inhabitants of the locality. This led to retaliation. The head constable warned both the parties to stop pelting stones. The residents of the locality at once stopped, but the processionists continued the stone-throwing, hitting and injuring, amongst others, the head constable and a constable. After due warning the head constable fired a shot but this did not deter the processionists and the head constable was compelled to fire three more rounds. While this was going on, some of the processionists moved to another end of a terrace and began pelting stones against another section of the residents. Several persons received stone hits and one of the local residents who was thus attacked fired two shots from his licensed single barrel breech loading gun at the communists. The crowd thereafter dispersed

On receipt of information of the incident later in the evening, the District Superintendent of Police with two sections of armed reserve rushed to the spot, took all necessary precautions and brought the situation under control

Fourteen injured persons came to the hospital at Kurnool on the 11th of December of whom seven were treated as out-patients and seven as indoor patients. The head constable and the constable who had been injured came to the hospital on the 12th and are being treated for injuries caused by stone throwing.

On the report of the head constable a case against 21 of the processionists was registered under sections

147 and 327 of the Penal Code. Nine of the accused have been arrested and released on bail. On a statement of one of the injured processionists another case has been registered against some of the local residents under sections 147, 148, 324 and 326 I.P.C, and section 19 (f) of the Anns Act. The complaint is being investigated.

On the afternoon of the 12th the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Kurnool started a magisterial enquiry into the incident. The enquiry was completed on the 14th and the Government received his report yesterday and the findings are under examination.

SHRI B. GUPTA (West Bengal): *** Sir, I challenge the correctness of the statement made just now before the House, I would ask you, Sir, to appoint a commission of this House to go into this matter and report to us as to what had happened. This is a statement which he is making after it has already appeared in the press.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE (West Bengal): May I make a submission in regard to the statement? May I suggest to the hon. Minister through you that arrangements may be made for the making of the statements simultaneously in both the Houses? While we are obliged to the hon. Minister for the statement made, I believe most of us have read it today in the newspapers; and further, Sir, a motion for papers was moved in this House also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When such statements are made it is better to make them simultaneously.

DR. K. N. KATJU: I shall do so in future.

SHRI B. GUPTA: There is another point, Sir. The police strike is spreading in West Bengal, more policemen have joined in the strike and the military has been called out.....

***Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Home Minister is expected to make a statement on the subject tomorrow.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

PAPERS *re.* THE DELHI ROAD TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALACESAN) : Sir, X. lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers under subsection (3) of section 38 of the Delhi Road Transport Authority Act, 1950: —

(1) (i) Balance-Sheet of the Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1951-52.

(ii) Profit and Loss Accounts of the Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1951-52.

(iii) Financial Review by the General Manager, Delhi Transport Service, for the year 1951-52.

(iv) Audit Report on the Annual Accounts of the Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1951-52 together with the replies of the Delhi Road Transport Authority to the audit objections.

(2) (i) Balance-Sheet of the Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1952-53.

(ii) Profit and Loss Accounts of the Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1952-53.

(iii) Financial Review by the General Manager, Delhi Transport Service, for the year 1952-53.

(iv) Audit Report on the Annual Accounts of the Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1952-53 together with the replies of the General Manager, Delhi Transport Service, to the objections and the orders of the Delhi Road Transport Authority thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. S—495/54.]

THE PREVENTIVE DETENTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1954

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we are coming to familiar ground.

SHRI B. GUPTA (West Bengal): Can we not ask him to go away without introducing this Bill?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Be decorous and dignified in the Parliament, whatever you may be outside.

SHRI B. GUPTA: It is a very undignified Bill—not a dignified Bill as the one we passed yesterday; it is an undignified Bill that is being brought up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't interrupt before the Bill is introduced. You will have your turn and you can make your remarks at that stage. I hope you will all behave with great decorum and dignity.

SHRI B. GUPTA: How do you expect us, Sir, to behave properly when the Bill is very bad and provocative?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The storm has come in!

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (DR. K. N. KATJU) : It is bursting without any provocation whatsoever.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is nobody to bring him to order. Mr. Mazumdar, you sit by his side.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR (West Bengal): This Bill is as much a provocation to me as it is to him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That does not matter.

DR. K. N. KATJU: Mr. Chairman. I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Preventive Detention Act, 1950, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."