

*remodelling* REMODELLING OF STATIONS IN TRAVANCORE  
COCHIN

\*160. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state the reasons why the railway stations on the Shencotta-Quilon and Quilon-Trivandrum lines in the Travancore-Cochin State are being left out of the remodelling scheme which is under way in other parts of the Southern Railway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): Apparently the hon. Member is referring to the remodelling of stations with a view to providing passenger amenities. Such amenities are provided on a programmed basis on all sections including the Shencotta-Quilon and Quilon-Trivandrum sections.

PUBLIC REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL  
TRAIN SERVICE

\*161. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from sections of the public in North Bengal requesting for the introduction of a fast passenger special train between Calcutta and Siliguri on the North Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes.

(b) It was considered and found that at the moment there is no traffic justification.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is the hon. Deputy Minister aware that only two trains run from Assam to Calcutta and that when they come to the stations of North Bengal, they are already congested and so, not to speak of third and inter class compartments, even

higher class passengers find it difficult to get accommodation?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It is true there are only two trains, as the hon. Member said. But this matter was examined, not once or twice, but on several occasions and the traffic justification was found wanting. That is proved from the figures that I have.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, at present there is no justification.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: But how was it examined and by whom?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just as you examined it and concluded there was justification.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: But I travel as a passenger, Sir, and the hon. Ministers and the Railway officers travel in special saloons.

SHRI ABID ALI: I travel in third class also.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: They are re-modelled and reserved ones, but these are not.

COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCE TO RAILWAY  
EMPLOYEES FOR UNHEALTHY  
SURROUNDINGS

\*162. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to my Starred Question No. 418 on the 20th April 1954, and state:

(a) whether Government have come to any decision regarding the removal of anomalies existing in respect of the grant of compensatory allowances on the ground of unhealthy surroundings to the employees in certain sections of the North Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, what are the decisions arrived at?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir.