

है अधिक नहीं। कानपुर में विभिन्न दिशाओं को जाने वाली गाड़ियों से इनका आमतौर पर मेल हो जाता है।

(ख) गोविन्दपुरी और कानपुर के बीच इव गाड़ियों के रुके रहने का कारण यह है कि मुख्यतः अन्य स्थानों पर खतरे की जंजीरें खींचने की अत्याधिक घटनाओं से बिलम्ब हो जाने के कारण वे अपने निर्धारित समय से पिछड़ जाती हैं। खतरे की जंजीर खींचे जाने के मामले के सम्बन्ध में राज्य सरकार को लिखा गया है और मजिस्ट्रेट द्वारा जांच का काम तेज कर दिया गया है। जिन कारणों पर रेलवे का वश है, उनकी वजह से गाड़ियों को होने वाले बिलम्ब को कम से कम करने की हर संभव कोशिश की जा रही है।

B.G. LINES FROM NANGAL TO UNA

4671. SHRI HEM RAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposals from the Himachal Pradesh Government to extend the broad gauge lines from Nangal to Una or from Hoshiarpur to Gagret; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to undertake a survey of these two lines and, if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) and (b). A proposal for the construction of a new B.G. Railway line from Nangal to Talwara via Una and Gagret had been received from Government of Himachal Pradesh. To assess the financial implications of the proposed link, a quick appreciation was carried out in 1963, which revealed that this project would not be financially remunerative. Due to paucity of funds, the proposed rail link is not likely to be considered for construction during the Fourth Plan. Any survey carried out now will be out of date, if at all

the construction of the line is considered at a distant future date. No survey is, therefore, proposed to be taken up at present for this line.

ALL INDIA RAILWAY INSTITUTE EMPLOYEES' UNION

4672. SHRI BHAGABAN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum from the All India Railway Institute Employees' Union;

(b) if so, the total number of employees working in the Railway Institutes in different Railways during 1967-68;

(c) whether these employees are considered as Railway employees and, if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether Government are considering a proposal to treat these employees as Railway employees; and

(e) if so, when the decision is likely to be taken in the matter

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) A memorandum has recently been received from the Member who has proposed this Question.

(b) The total number of employees working in the Railway Institutes is not readily available.

(c) No; as they are paid from Institute Funds and not from Railway Revenues.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED CARRYING OF INDIAN PASSPORTS BY SOME OF THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIJACKING AN ISRAELI AIRCRAFT TO ALGIERS

SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldai): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and

I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

Reported carrying of Indian Passport by some of the three persons responsible for hijacking an Israeli aircraft to Algiers.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to information received on 30th July, 1968 from the Israeli Government, one of the three persons reported to be involved in hijacking the Israeli aircraft to Algiers from Rome on 23rd July, 1968, carried an Indian passport (An Hon. Member: Shame.) issued to Shri Fazal Hussain on 30th October 1967 by our Embassy in Iraq. Our Embassy in Iraq has confirmed the issue of such a passport in lieu of a previous passport dated 25th October, 1961, issued by the R.P.O. Delhi. Shri Fazal Hussain, who is presently in employment in Kuwait as a cook to Ali Mohammed Rizwan, General Secretary of the Kuwait National Petroleum Company, has confirmed to our Embassy in Kuwait that he received the passport dated 30th October 1967 from our Embassy in Iraq when he went there on a pilgrimage in 1967. He has also stated that on arrival in Kuwait in March 1968 from India he handed his passport to his employer. The employer is at present away in Europe from where he is expected back in September, Shri Hussain has further stated to our Embassy that he has been in Kuwait with his present employer continuously since March 1968.

From the foregoing facts it appears that the possibility of the passport in question having passed into the custody of unauthorised persons, or of an identical document with the same details having been forged, cannot be ruled out.

The Algerian authorities have so far stated only that the three commandoes who hijacked the plane carried forged documents.

There is no Indian either among the released passengers or the remain-

ing five still detained with the crew of the hijacked Israeli plane.

The matter is under investigation by our Missions in Algeria, Iraq and Kuwait as well as by authorities here. Meanwhile, instructions have been issued to our Passport Issuing Authorities to impound the passport.

SHRI HEM BARUA: After giving a detailed description of the whole incident, the TIME magazine of August 2 has pointed out that three well-dressed Arab passengers of that particular aircraft went into the cockpit and one of them beat the co-pilot with the butt-end of his pistol like this.... (Interruption).

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): I thought, he said "bit", not "beat".

SHRI HEM BARUA: He struck the co-pilot with the butt-end of his pistol.... (Interruption).

SHRI PILOO MODY: How?

SHRI HEM BARUA: and wanted the pilot of the aircraft, after the aircraft flew for an hour out of Rome, to divert the course of the aircraft to Algiers and not to fly to Tel Aviv. It is reported by the Time magazine that some of the three persons who were responsible for this misdeed held Indian passports. The Minister has also admitted that an Indian passport was there. In the context of that, may I know if the possession of an Indian passport by some of these miscreants, at least, one of these three miscreants, is an offence or not and, if it is an offence, whether our Government is going to enquire into the entire background of the incident, the persons responsible for handing over the passport to these miscreants, whether they have been brought to book or not—that is what I am interested to know—or else this incident has damaged the image of India in the world.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: As I stated earlier, in the main statement, the passport held by this particular individual is not a genuine

[Shri Surendra Pal Singh]
 passport. There is no doubt about that. It is, obviously, a forged passport. Even if it is an original document, the picture inside the passport must have been changed. All these things are being investigated.

SHRI HEM BARUA : This is an offence. The picture was changed by somebody and the person who is responsible for allowing that man to change it is an Indian and he should be prosecuted. Why has not the Government brought the Indian responsible for that to book? This is a serious matter. Government is not thinking seriously. The image of India has been damaged in the world.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : This particular individual to whom the passport was issued by Indian authorities, actually lives in Kuwait and he has been there since March, 1968. It is not that person who went there with that passport. His passport is with the employer. It is possible that the passport may have gone into wrong hands or they may have got another passport which may have been forged. All these things will be gone into and we will find out the position.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Santosham—
 not here. Then, Papers to be laid.

12.31 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
ANNUAL REPORTS OF DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR ART SILK INDUSTRY

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHANU PRAKASH SINGH) : On behalf of Shri F. A. Ahmed, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the Annual Reports of the following Development Councils for the year 1966-67, under sub-section (4) of section 7 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 :—

- (1) Development Council for Drugs and Pharmaceuticals.

- (2) Development Council for Art Silk Industry. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1778/68.]

NOTIFICATION UNDER EXPORT (QUALITY CONTROL AND INSPECTION) ACT.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Amendment Rules, 1968, published in Notification No. S.O. 2718 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1968, under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 (Hindi and English versions). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1779/68.]

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha :—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Indian Registration (Amendment) Bill, 1968, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th August, 1968."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Bihar State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1968, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th August, 1968."

12.33 hrs.

BILLS AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY : Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the following Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha :—

- (1) The Indian Registration (Amendment) Bill, 1968.
- (2) The Bihar State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1968.