

Cuttack and Bhubneswar do not form part of the same local exchange area and calls between these have to be charged on trunk call basis. The trunk call charge rate is 48 annas for every 12½ miles upto a distance of 100 miles. The trunk charge between Cuttack and Bhubneswar would thus have been 10 annas per call on this basis. However, the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs has fixed a charges of Re -/4/- per unit call, as for toll calls, as a special case because of the high community of interest.

Bridges on Rivers

539. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have approached Central Government for aid in the construction of bridges over the rivers Birupa, Brahmani, Mahanadi during the Second Five Year Plan, and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b) Bridges over the rivers Mahanadi and Brahmani on National Highway No 6 (Bombay - Nagpur - Sambalpur-Calcutta Road) are already completed. The river Birupa does not cross this National Highway. The construction of bridges across the rivers Birupa, Brahmani and Mahanadi on National Highway No 5 (Madras Cuttack-Balasore--Baharagora Road) is provided in the Second Five Year Plan.

Puri-Konarak Road

540. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether the Puri-Konarak Road (Orissa) for which a substantial grant has been made to promote tourist interest has been completed, and

(b) if so, when?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications

(Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The road portion of the project is expected to be completed by June 1958. Work on the bridges, the estimates for which are under consideration, will be started after the estimates are sanctioned.

Hyderabad -Visakhapatnam Air Service

541. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1337 on the 21st December, 1956 and state

(a) whether arrangements for Hyderabad-Visakhapatnam air flights have been finalised, and

(b) if so, the frequency of the flights?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) The Indian Airlines Corporation have not finalised arrangements for linking Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam by air. The introduction of this service will be considered after the Viscounts, due to be received shortly, commence operating the trunk routes.

(b) Does not arise.

New Railway Lines in Andhra

542. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of new lines surveyed in Andhra to link Hyderabad the capital of Andhra Pradesh?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): The following surveys in Andhra Pradesh have been included in the Works Programmes before the New Andhra Pradesh with its capital at Hyderabad was formed —

(i) Nizamabad—Ramagundam

(ii) Macherala—Maidukur

(iii) Nellore—Maidukur

Macherla-Nandi Konda line is being constructed at the cost of the Nagarjuna Sagar Dam Project. The other