

STATEMENT (*vide* parts (a) and (c))

Year	No. of posts reserved for Anglo-Indians	No. of posts actually filled by Anglo-Indians
1947	42	2
1950	72	5
1951	5	2
1952	32	Nil
1953	114	4
1954	149	82
1955	171	8
1956	174	59

Rail Connection between Jaisalmer and Northern Railway

1313. **Shri Raghunath Singhji:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect Jaisalmer with any suitable Station on the Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, whether this will be included in the Second Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah nawas Khan): (a) and (b). No such proposal is under consideration at present because there is no likelihood of any new line being included in the Second Five Year Plan.

Grants to Rajasthan from Central Road Fund

1314. **Shri Raghunath Singhji:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to the erstwhile State of Jaisalmer from the Central Road Fund during the First Five Year Plan; and

(b) the amount allotted for Rajasthan from the Central Road Fund in the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b).

Allotments from the Central Road Fund are made to different States and not to individual districts of the States. Figures for Jaisalmer are not available separately but attempt will be made to obtain them from the State Government. They will be laid on the table of the Sabha in due course. A statement showing the allotments made to Rajasthan during the first plan period and so far during the second plan period is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 87.]

Post Offices in Madras City

1315. **Shri Dharmalingam:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices in the city of Madras now functioning in private rented buildings;

(b) the rents paid by the Government on the above post offices from 1950 to 1956;

(c) whether there was any proposal for the construction of building for the functioning of these post offices; and

(d) if so, how many are under construction and the amount so far spent?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 69.

(b) Rs. 4,89,600|-.

(c) Construction of two Departmental buildings is under consideration.

(d) Does not arise.

Railway Unions

1316. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unions in each Railway; and

(b) the number of unions recognised?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The information is given below:—

Railway	Total No. of unions	No. of recognised unions
Central	4	2
Western	2	2
Southern	10	*2
South Eastern	3	2
North Eastern	2	2
Eastern	4	3
Northern	3	1

Development of Forests in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1317. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the steps taken by Government for the development of forests in Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The following are some of the important steps taken by the Government for the development of forests in the Andamans, since these islands came under our control in 1946:

1. Detailed Working Plans were prepared for the North, South and Middle Andaman Forests after necessary field work.
2. Departmental working was re-organised in the forests of the South and Middle Andamans.
3. The North Andamans forests (about 707 sq. miles) have been leased to a private party

for a period of 25 years w.e.f. 31st August, 1951 on royalty basis. This is the first attempt to exploit the large timber resources of the North Andamans.

4. With readily available equipment, a circular Saw mill was installed first. It has since been supplemented by a modern band saw mill at Chatham. This is being further re-organised in order to improve efficiency.
5. The Andamans forests have been organised to provide the bulk of the raw material for the matchwood industry located in Calcutta, Bombay and Madras and to the plywood industry in Calcutta mainly. Timber supplies to the mainland were also organised.
6. Effective steps were taken to re-establish an export trade

*These two unions have decided to merge into one.