

in the P. & T. Department. It is not borne out by the facts given here.

श्री अचल सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री बतलाने को कृपा करेंगे कि जो आदमी—

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मझे माननीय सदस्यों ने एक विनय करनी है। जितना वक्त वे इस बात पर लगाते हैं "क्या माननीय मंत्री बतलाने को कृपा करेंगे", इतने समय में तो वह बतलाने हो जायगा। इस वास्ते वे कार्रवाई करे कि इस को न कहा जाय।

श्री अचल सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री जो बतलाने को कृपा करेंगे—(हसा)। माननीय मंत्री जो बतलायेंगे कि जब कोई आदमी रिटायर होता है तो उसके रीयन पेपर इत्यादि ज्यादा से ज्यादा कितने समय में बन जाते चाहियें और उसको रीयन मिल जाना चाहिये ?

श्री जनकजीन राम : जल्दी से जल्दी यह काम हो जाना चाहिये।

Shri Warrior: May I know whether the police got any record of paper from the body of the person after the suicide giving the clue for the reason of the suicide? Was any investigation made?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: There is no case for any such feeling or to infer that he committed suicide because he was in a condition of penury. He had a sizeable amount in his savings bank. There has not been delay in paying his contribution to the Provident fund.

श्री बड़े : एमे कितने केमेज पेडिंग है जिन में रिटायर होने के एक या दो माल तक पोस्ट और टेलिग्राफ डिपार्टमेंट में पेंशन नही मिली है ?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not carry all that information with me. If the hon. Member wants that information, he can have it after giving separate notice.

श्री उ० मू० त्रिवेदी : बहुत सारे केमेज होंगे।

श्री बड़े : बहुत हों या कम हों, कम से कम यह तो बतला सकते हैं कि एक है, दो है या कितने है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो जब इन्फार्मेशन हो तब पता चल सकता है कि एक है या ज्यादा है।

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Is it a fact that a letter was found on the body of the deceased, and if so, may I know whether the contents of that letter revealed the cause of the suicide?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: No, Sir.

Financing of Bridge over Sone River

*1168. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to provide finance for the construction of a bridge over Sone River in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the quantum of the finance?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes, Sir. The bridge work has been sanctioned by the Government of India under the International Development Association Credit programme, and global tenders have been invited for the same. The estimates for the approach roads are under consideration.

(b) Rs. 210.55 lakhs for the bridge and Rs. 29.20 lakhs for the approach roads.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether any time-schedule for the starting of the construction and the completion of this bridge has been drawn up?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: In all these cases, a rough time-schedule is drawn up.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: What would be the total cost, and what is the contribution in this, if any, of the State Government, apart from the Central Government's quantum of finance?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I think we have assistance from the International Development Association and the rest will be borne by the Central Government from the various funds.

श्री श्री० वि० मेहरोत्रा: क्या इस पुनः को बनाने का ठेका किसी विदेशी कम्पनी की दिया गया है? यदि हाँ, तो कितने रुपये में दिया गया है?

श्री जगजीवन राम: नायद माननीय सदस्य के उत्तर को ठीक से नहीं गुना। बतलाया गया कि विशदवापों टेन्डर आमन्त्रित किये गये हैं।

P. & T. Service

*1169. **Shri A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state what immediate dynamic outlook Government is bringing to ensure prompt and reliable service in the Post, and Telegraph Department?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 49].

श्री श्री० सि० सहगल: जिन सर्विसेज को जनता को देने के लिये खास तौर से स्टैटमेंट में बतलाया गया है, उन की पूर्ति पुरी तरह से नहीं हुई है, इस के बारे में क्या खयाल है?

श्री जगजीवन राम: जो हाँ, पूर्ति करने का प्रयत्न किया जायेगा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: जो फैक्ट्स हों व पूछे जाने चाहिये। खयाल नहीं पूछे जाते।

Shri D. C. Sharma: It has been mentioned in the statement that the

powers and functions of the P. & T. Board have been enhanced. May I know in what direction this enhancement has taken place?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: In all directions connected with the administration.

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: Are there any orders about surprise visits and supervision and checking of the departmental post offices?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As I have said, the post of a director has been created for inspection and supervision work, and we are going to concentrate on supervision.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Do these proposals include the improvement of the service of the Telephone Department as well, as far as local calls and trunk calls are concerned?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Obviously so.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether the report of the special wing that has been set up for the building programme has been received by Government, because this has been one of the main hurdles in the functioning of the Department in several places?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: This arrangement has been made recently, and we shall have to watch the progress. I have no doubt that they will be able to expedite the construction work.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Is it a fact that registered covers take more than a week from one part of India to New Delhi, much more time than ordinary covers, which are less costly, take?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not think it can be put as a universal fact in P. & T. But there are cases; sometimes there is delay, and we are trying to overcome that.

Shri Warrior: In the booking counter for trunk lines, they are always insisting upon booking of urgent calls and super-urgent calls, and if ordin-