

Out of these 3 colleges, the Colleges of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine started functioning with effect from July 1960 and the College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology is scheduled to be started from July, 1962. The University has yet to submit plans for starting the other two colleges, but it is likely that these two may also be established during the Third Five Year Plan period.

Railway Zonal System

***1062. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which Railways were grouped into different Zonal systems and whether the same basis subsists;

(b) what was the work load when Railways were re-organised and what is the work load today of each zone; and

(c) how this increase has effected their working and efficiency?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 19].

Departmental Catering on Railways

***1063.** { Shri Subodh Hansda:
 { Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that departmental catering is still running at a loss;

(b) if so, the total annual loss during the last three years;

(c) the reasons of this loss;

(d) whether complaints of bad food and bad services have become usual feature; and

(e) whether any action has been taken on the complaints?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Year.	Loss (in thousands of Rs.)
1958-59	Rs. 10.92
1959-60	Rs. 3.78
1960-61	Rs. 4.43
1961-62	Rs. 6.54 (Estimated).

The main reasons for losses in departmental catering are:—

(i) expenditure incurred on payment of salary and allowances to the staff with service conditions applicable to Central Government servants.

(ii) the sale of better quality of edibles; and

(iii) maintenance of better service.

(d) and (e). Some complaints in regard to quality of food and service have been received and appropriate action to remedy the defects pointed out in each case has been taken.

Accidents at Level Crossings on Railways

***1064.** { Shri Raghunath Singh:
 { Shri P. C. Borooah:
 { Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many accidents took place on level crossing of railways since January, 1961 to-date; and

(b) the steps taken to minimise such accidents?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) During the period from January, 1961 upto the end of April, 1962, 240 accidents took place at level crossings.