

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.

(b) (i) In cases where the Railway staff are found to blame, suitable action is taken against them;

(ii) On either side of the unmanned level crossings, whistle boards are displayed and drivers are required to whistle in order to warn the vehicular traffic of the approaching trains. Notice Boards warning the Road Traffic of the approaching unmanned level crossing are displayed by the Road authority.

(iii) Officers and other supervisory staff inspect manned level crossing gates frequently to ensure that the gates are properly equipped and the gatemen understand their duties.

#### Fire in Indian Cargo Liner

\*1065. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri Bishwanath Roy:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Cargo liner caught fire at Suez on the 6th May, 1962;

(b) if so, the circumstances in which this happened; and

(c) the loss of life and property caused thereby?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):**

(a) Fire broke out in No. 4 Hatch of the Indian Cargo liner "Indian Shipper" on the 6th May, 1962, while nearing Suez.

(b) and (c). No information is at present available regarding the cause of the fire as also the extent of damage to cargo or the ship. There was no loss of life. The ship has been declared seaworthy and has proceeded on her further voyage westward.

#### New First Class Coaches

\*1066. { Dr. P. Srinivasan:  
Shri Paramasivan:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the new first-class coaches manufactured by Integral Coach Factory are most inconvenient and passengers have lodged complaints about the same; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to re-design the said coaches?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) Some complaints of inconvenience in the new First Class coaches built by the Integral Coach Factory have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) No Sir; however, those complaints received are being investigated and action will be taken as necessary and feasible.

#### Calcutta Postal Zones

\*1067. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether North Dum Dum Municipality is included within the Calcutta postal area as one compact local area for purposes of transmission and delivery of letters and postcards;

(b) whether Nimta Sub-Post Office within North Dum Dum Municipality has received no Calcutta Zonal number as yet;

(c) whether Birati area in the same municipality is served by postal zone number of Calcutta area;

(d) if so, reasons for this discrimination; and

(e) when Nimta will also be given a Calcutta Zonal number?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan**