

### Waiting Rooms and Rest Houses

\*56. **Shri M. M. Gandhi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to cancel all the plans for the construction of new big station buildings and of waiting rooms and rest-houses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of the stations which would be affected by this decision; and

(d) the savings which would be effected thereby?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) No.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

### Basic Agricultural Schools

\*57. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the request of the Ministry of Defence, the Food and Agriculture Ministry agreed to train military ex-servicemen in the State's Basic Agricultural Schools,

(b) if so, how many persons have been trained year by year, up-to-date; and

(c) whether these trained ex-servicemen have been absorbed in the Ministry or after completion of training they have been utilised in the Defence Ministry or elsewhere?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha when received.

### Railway Workshops

\*58. **Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the programmes of the Railways as regards expansion and modernisation of workshops and construction of new lines were held up for want of necessary materials;

(b) if so, the shortage of materials that was felt; and

(c) steps that have been taken to keep up the programme?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Progress in some cases was retarded.

(b) Mostly steel, cement, signalling materials and pipes.

(c) A Steel-Purchase Mission has been sent abroad for procuring track materials etc. Cement. Ministry of Commerce & Industry have been requested to arrange and to expedite supply

Attempts are also being made to use alternative materials.

### Track between Shoranur and Cochin

\*59. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report about the condition of the Railway Track between Shoranur and Cochin Harbour Terminus on the Southern Railway and also about the bridges on the same line,

(b) whether it is a fact that the Chalakkudy and the Perendur bridges on this line are in a very dangerous condition; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken to improve the condition of the bridges?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) and (b) No, Sir The bridges and track are reported to be free from danger on this section.

(c) Does not arise.