

Railways comprising certain sections of the North-Eastern Railway,

(b) if so, when that zone will be created,

(c) which sections of the North-Eastern Railway will comprise that zone; and

(d) where the headquarter of that zone will be located?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) No date has yet been fixed

(c) Besides the Pandu Region, it will include Katihar-Barauni section, including its connected branch lines

(d) At Pandu

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the Government has received any representation from the representatives of the Katihar-Barauni section to the effect that they do not want the Katihar railway district to be included in the Pandu zone?

**Shri Shah nawaz Khan:** We may have received some representation. But, the Railways do not go by the number of representations received from various people. We go by what is in the best interests of operational efficiency. We have to run the trains and we have to decide what is the best way of doing it.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** At the time when zones are being divided, may I know what steps are taken to see that Assam is not given an overdue proportion of the over-aged stock which they have today?

**Shri Shah nawaz Khan:** We are fully aware of the difficulties of Assam. We will try to do our best for them.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know what will be the route mileage that would come under this new zone which will be located at Pandu?

**Shri Shah nawaz Khan:** Eventually, it will be very nearly 2,000 miles.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether, after the decision to

form the 8th zone, the Government proposes to drop the divisionalisation of the North Eastern Railway and whether they have dropped the scheme of locating the divisional headquarters in Muzaffarpur and Katihar, and what preliminary expenses were incurred to bring the two divisional headquarters to Katihar? May I have any information on that?

**Shri Shah nawaz Khan:** It is true that we have given up the idea of divisionalisation of this Railway. Instead, we are going to have the district system. In some places where divisional offices were under construction, we stopped the construction of surplus accommodation. In Lucknow, for instance, a four storeyed building was to be constructed for the divisional office. We have now issued orders that it should be confined to only one storey.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** I want to know the total expenses incurred in the building construction in Muzaffarpur and Katihar for locating the divisional headquarters.

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** No expenditure will be infructuous because all the buildings which have been constructed will be utilised.

**Shri Hem Barua:** In view of the fact that Assam is under-developed from the economic and industrial point of view, would the Government consider the proposal to link up the State with the port at Calcutta by including the Sealdah division within the ambit of the proposed zone?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It will not be possible.

Central Board of Transport

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\*294. { Shri Punnoose:  
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Board of Transport did not

meet during the years 1954, 1955 and 1956;

(b) if so, when the last meeting was held; and

(c) what are reasons for no meeting thereafter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No 88]

Shri Punnoose: The statement says that the last meeting of the Central Board of Transport was held on the 24th January, 1953. The statement then says that there is no function for the Board to take up. It was pointed by the Estimates Committee recommended that the Board may be amalgamated with the Transport Advisory Council. May I know when this fact that the Board has no function came to the notice of the Government? Was it found out only when this was pointed out by the Estimates Committee?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The essential purpose for which this Board was constituted was for the consideration at a high level of major transport problems and policies. Meetings were held and these policies were broadly outlined as far back as 1953. Thereupon it was considered desirable that the task of implementing or executing these policies should be left to a standing committee which was constituted as is known to the hon. House. As regards the recommendation of the Estimates Committee, as is well known, the functions of this Board not only cover roads as such, but also railways and civil aviation and other means of transport. Therefore, that recommendation is still under consideration.

Shri Punnoose: The last meeting of this Board was in 1953, January. We are now in 1957. How long would this useless Board be under consideration of the Government?

Shri Raj Bahadur: If any major problem or question of policy arises, which deserve consideration at a higher level, I think a meeting of the Board can again be called.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: While recommending the amalgamation of this Central Board of Transport with the Transport Advisory Council, the Estimates Committee had also recommended that the Advisory Council should be re-constituted and that non-official representatives should be there. I would like to know the attitude of the Government in that question.

Shri Raj Bahadur: In reply to a previous question, I think I have already indicated that the particular recommendation of the Estimates Committee is under consideration of the Government. I have also pointed out the difficulty that is there.

Shri Pattabhi Raman: Is the Government aware that a number of road constructions, for example the one from Madras to Rameswaram along the coast and a number of roads in the delta area of Tanjore, have been lying frozen for want of activity of this Board?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think both these roads, if I know correctly, are within the domain of the State Government. I think they should better look after them.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Since the suspension of the activities of this Board in 1953, have any of the State Governments drawn the attention of the Central Government to the necessity of keeping this alive?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I would not call it "suspension" as such. As I said, certain broad policies and problems were tackled by the Board. Thereupon, the further work was transferred to a standing committee whose 180th meeting is going to be held on the 25th of July.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Are the State Governments represented on that

committee? Have they got a say in the matter?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I do not think they are represented. The State Governments, however, have a right to consult the Committee or the Board as and when needed.

#### N.E.S. Blocks, West Bengal

\*295. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 363 on the 28th May, 1957 and state when the N.E.S. Blocks at Kolaghat and Pauskura in the district of Midnapur, West Bengal were officially declared opened?

**The Minister for Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey):** 2nd October, 1956.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether on the 2nd October, 1956, the Block officers for these blocks were appointed and they worked on?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** The Block officers were not appointed to these blocks till sometime in February and June 1957.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether in the place of the Block officer any other Block officer was officiating there and whether the work that was entrusted to the Block officer formerly was suffering?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** A Sub-divisional officer was looking after these blocks and also a Block development officer of an adjoining block. Block officers could not be appointed because of the difficulties of floods and elections following.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether the duration of three years will be calculated from 2nd October and whether the works that will suffer will be compensated afterwards if not completed?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** The period will be extended if the works cannot be completed.

#### सड़कों का विकास

\*२९७ श्री भक्त बर्मान . क्या परिबहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि द्वितीय पंच-वर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत अन्तर्राज्यीय तथा प्राथिक महत्व की सड़कों के विकास के लिये राज्य सरकारों को विशेष अनुदान देने के उद्देश्य से १८ करोड़ रुपये की धन राशि निश्चित की गई है,

(ख) यदि हा, तो उस धनराशि का विभिन्न राज्यों में वितरण करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है, और

(ग) यदि विभिन्न राज्यों ने सड़कों के विकास के सम्बन्ध में कोई प्रस्ताव भेजे हों, तो क्या उनका विवरण सभा-मटल पर रखा जायेगा ?

परिबहन तथा संचार मंत्र लय में राख-  
मंत्रों (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) जी, हा ।

(ख) १८ करोड़ रुपये की पूजा का वितरण इस प्रकार दिया गया :—

१ पहली योजना में से स्वीकृत मडक योजनाओं के लिए शेष १५ करोड़ रुपये की पूजा को भाग्य के लिए नियत कर दिया गया है ।

२ २ करोड़ रुपये की पूजा को, उत्तर तथा उत्तर-पूर्वी सरहद्दी क्षेत्र में नई मडक योजनाओं के लिए और १ करोड़ रुपये की पूजा महत्वपूर्ण पर्यटक केन्द्रों में जाने वाली उन सड़कों के विकास के लिए नियत कर दी गई है जिनकी स्वीकृति दूसरी पंच वर्षीय योजना काल में दी जायेगी ।

विभिन्न राज्यों में सरहद्दी सड़कों और पर्यटक-सड़कों के लिये जो अनुदान निर्धारित