

(c) whether permanent posts are not available or the seniority is not determined;

(d) whether they are entitled to the benefits of confirmation with retrospective effect when confirmed; and

(e) what steps are taken to confirm them without any more delay?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Confirmations in respect of post-integration vacancies since 14th April, 1951 have not yet been made pending finalisation of combined seniority lists and promotional units in the integrated set up.

(c) Permanent posts are available but combined seniority lists and selections thereafter have yet to be finalised.

(d) Yes.

(e) Confirmations have been taken in hand in respect of Drivers 'A' grade. As regards Drivers 'B' grade, confirmations will be taken up as soon as selections are finalised. A senior scale officer has already been deputed to expedite action.

Rihand Dam Project

*865. **Shri Kalika Singh:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the amount out of Rs. 26 crores allocated for the Rihand Scheme of U.P., which is likely to be spent during the Second Plan period on the said project; and

(b) the amount that has been spent up to date on Rihand Scheme out of the total estimated cost of Rs. 45 crores and how much of it is foreign exchange?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The entire amount of Rs. 26 crores is likely to be spent during the Second Plan period.

(b) The expenditure till the end of October, 1957, was about Rs. 6.96 crores out of which about Rs. 2.65 crores was in foreign currency.

Chilka Fisheries

*869. **Dr. Samant Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) since how long the research staff of the Central Government is working at Balugun in Orissa on the Chilka Fisheries;

(b) whether the said research staff has been able to submit any report of their work by this time to the Central Government;

(c) the reasons for decrease in fish production in the Chilka lake;

(d) whether there is any proposal before Government for the protection of this fishery and increase in its production; and

(e) if so, when the proposals would be worked out?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Since 17-5-56

(b) Yes.

(c) It is too early to state the reasons for decrease if any in fish production in the Chilka lake. Investigations for determining the causes will have to be carried out for a number of years.

(d) and (e) The question of giving protection to this fishery and giving aid to increase the production will be considered when the results of the investigations that are being carried out by the Chilka Investigations Unit are known.

Upgrading of Posts

*872. **Shri Sambandam:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the

Office of the District Controller of Stores, Negapatam, Madras State on the 31st July, 1957 about upgrading of posts of clerical staff; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action on the same?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The requests of the staff concerned have been considered but not found justified.

Santa Cruz Air Port

***873. Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that looking to the immediate future requirement, it is necessary to extend the boundaries and the Air Strips of the Santa Cruz Airport;

(b) if so, whether further lands are being acquired;

(c) what will be the likely cost of the compensation payable to (i) Bombay Corporation and (ii) other parties; and

(d) the names of the industrial concerns whose lands are likely to be acquired?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Roughly, it is estimated at Rs. 123 lakhs, but the actual amount of compensation will be determined by the Land Acquisition Authorities in due course.

(d) 1. All India Glass Works (Private) Ltd

2. Vijay Industries.

3. Siesta Corporation.

4. Kamani Engineering Corporation (Private) Ltd.

5. Kamani Metal Alloys (Private) Ltd.

6 Bharat Silk Mills (Private) Ltd.

Poona-Bangalore Line

***876. Shri Mohammed Imam:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to convert the Meter gauge section between Poona and Bangalore to Broad gauge; and

(b) what would be the total cost of such conversion?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to convert the Poona-Bangalore section to Broad Gauge. However, the conversion of Poona-Miraj portion to B.G. is being investigated as an alternative to Khurudwadi-Miraj N.G. Conversion.

Compensation for Railway Accident Victims

***877. Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the amount of compensation, if any, paid so far to the victims of Asansol, Katpadi and Kanpur explosions?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): An amount of Rs. 2,200 has been paid as interim relief

An amount of Rs. 27,000 has also been deposited with the Commissioners for Workmen's Compensation concerned for disbursement to the parties entitled thereto.

National Extension Service Blocks in Orissa

***878. Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government have requested the Government of India for sanction of money to open some National Extension Service Blocks in Orissa in January, 1958; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?