

available from inter-connected grid systems of Tata, Bombay State Electricity Board and Railway. For the Southern Railway, necessary power will be supplied from Madras Government Grid. As power will be supplied from the interconnected grid systems, it is not possible to state the amount of power which will be supplied by each one of the hydro-electric stations connected to the various grids.

Enquiry into Air Crash at Dum Dum

*893. { Shri D. C. Sharma;
Shri Viswanatha Reddy;
Shrimati Mafta Ahmed:

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

(a) whether the Government have received the Report from the Inquiry Committee appointed to enquire into the death of four members of the crew of an Indian Airlines Corporation freighter Dakota which met with an accident at the Dum Dum airport on the 1st September, 1957;

(b) if so, whether it has been considered; and

(c) what steps have been taken to check the recurrence of such accidents?

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

(b) and (c). The report is still under examination

Fraud Cases in Delhi

*894. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a considerable increase recently in the number of frauds perpetrated on citizens by tricksters who enter Quarters and Flats in Delhi in the name of checking telephone; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) No

(b) Does not arise.

Demarcation of Flood Zones

*895. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1289 on the 29th August, 1957 regarding the Central Flood Control Board and state the steps since taken by the Ministry of Irrigation and Power in regard to demarcation of Flood zones?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): As suggested by the Central Flood Control Board, the proposal for enacting legislation for the demarcation of flood zones has been examined by the Government of India. The legal position is that no fresh legislation is necessary for the purpose. The State Governments are being informed accordingly.

Forest Department, Himachal Pradesh

*896. Shri Y. S. Parmar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Forest Department in Himachal Pradesh is fixing boundary pillars;

(b) whether it is a fact that at times pillars have been fixed in the fields of or at the doors of the landowners;

(c) whether it is a fact that this has caused great inconvenience to the peasants; and

(d) whether it is a fact that peasants have been in possession of those lands for years and there were no proper records of forest or lands in quite a few of the erstwhile States which now comprise Himachal Pradesh?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In certain cases there have been encroachments on Government land by peasants for purposes of cultivation and grazing etc. These cases are being dealt with on merits. In the erstwhile States where no proper records of undemarcated forests & waste lands were maintained, a regular settlement is now in progress & the rights of the persons concerned are being recorded.

All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation

*897. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received representation from the All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation for the appointment of a Wage Board for Employees of Ports and Docks in the major ports of India; and

(b) if so, the action Government have taken in the matter?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). The Federation's demands included the revision of the wage scales of port and dock workers and the appointment of suitable machinery for the purpose. Government did not feel justified in considering a general revision of the wage scales of this class of employees in isolation. They accepted the necessity for undertaking a review of the disparities and anomalies in the pay scales in the light of the recommendations of the 1947 Pay Commission. An Officer on Special Duty was appointed for this purpose. He has submitted a report which has been sent to the Port Authorities for consideration.

Dredging Operations

*898. **Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1419 on the 3rd September, 1957 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many ports of Ratnagiri District will remain unused on account of having no dredging arrangement; and

(b) whether there is any programme in the Second Five Year Plan for dredging in the rivers of Ratnagiri District?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Development of minor ports is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. The Government of Bombay have reported that it would not be correct to say that ports in Ratnagiri District would remain unused in the absence of dredging arrangements. The correct position is that navigation in the creeks or rivers in which most of these ports are located is restricted owing to the formation of sand bars at their mouths with the result that vessels using the ports have to wait for the high tide to cross the bars and consequently take more time to reach the internal areas.

(b) Yes, Sir

International Postal Union

*899. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the advantages and benefits derived by India from the membership of International Postal Union; and

(b) whether any contribution has to be made by India for such membership?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) The main advantages and benefits are in the shape of reciprocal facilities in the operation of our