

hastily decision on this matter. They may do so in a day, in a week. There is no hurry.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: We can ask them to produce the law.

'Pandit G. B. Pant: I have already said that there is no desire on the part of the Government to withhold the report. We will examine the position. If there is no difficulty from the point of view of the existing law, an attempt will be made to place the report on the Table of the House.

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): May I say a word? The legal aspect may be examined and will be examined as the hon. Home Minister has said. For your information and for the information of the House, I might say that quite a few reports have been published and placed on the Table of the House and in the Library. As a general rule, all important reports pertaining to important accidents or major accidents are published for the information not only of the House, but of the people as a whole.

Shri Achar: May we know the provision of law under which this is prohibited from being placed on the Table of the House?

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members are unnecessarily taking away the time of the House. Nobody has said absolutely that the law prohibits. The hon. Home Minister has said that he will examine. If after looking into, I find that there must be some more elucidation, I will take the assistance of some of the hon. Members. There is no difficulty in this matter. It does not call for a ruling.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Travel Agents

*182. { **Shri Morarka:**
Shri Nathwani:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is intended to reduce the commission payable to the Travel Agents;

(b) if so, to what extent it would be reduced; and

(c) the total amount paid to Travel Agents by way of commission during 1956-57?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. So far as tickets issued by Travel Agents for normal internal travel is concerned, the rate of commission is being reduced from the existing 5 per cent. to 3½ per cent. with effect from 1-12-1957.

(c) Approximately Rs. 5.8 lakhs.

River Ferry Service Fares

*183. **Shri Rajendra Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ghat to Ghat booking between Paleza Ghat and Mahendrughat is not open;

(b) whether the passengers travelling between these stations have to pay the penalty viz., twice the ordinary fares;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action Government propose to take in the matter?

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

(b) to (d). There are separate ferry services licensed by the State Government exclusively to cater to the passenger moving from one ghat to the

other. No passenger can, therefore, be booked by the Railway ferry from ghat to ghat, and such passengers detected over the ferry have to be charged fares and excess charges as they would be travelling without tickets.

Drainage in Rural Areas of Delhi

*187. **Shri A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether on account of defective system of drainage in Delhi rural areas crops of considerable value have been damaged this year;

(b) whether the Government is giving any priority to the drainage scheme;

(c) which are the schemes under investigation; and

(d) how much it will cost Government to remove completely this defective system of drainage?

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

(b) Yes, Rs. 4 lakhs have been already sanctioned for desilting and grading of Najafgarh drain and the work is in progress and is likely to be completed before the next monsoon.

(c) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No. 82].

(d) Rs. 37.00 lakhs.

Dry Dock at Visakhapatnam

*190. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state what progress has been made in constructing the Dry Dock in the Visakhapatnam shipyard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): Against the total estimated cost of Rs. 215.00 lakhs for this project, an expenditure of

about Rs. 2.33 lakhs has been incurred on certain preliminary works which have been carried out on the basis of the Project Report of Messrs. Rendel Palmer & Tritton of U. K., the Technical Consultants for this Project. Further implementation of this scheme has been held up for want of funds during the current financial year.

Power Supply from Bhakra-Nangal to Delhi, Punjab and Rajasthan

*191. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the quantity of power expected to be given to Delhi, Rajasthan and Punjab out of the Hydro-electric Projects at Nangal and Bhakra?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No. 83].

Pension for Railway Employees

*195. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1191 on the 28th August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the Pension System has since been introduced on the Railways; and

(b) if so, since when?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). It has been decided to introduce the Pension System on the Railways with effect from 1-4-57 and orders are likely to issue within a week or two.

Rice Supply in Bengal

*196. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cheaper variety of rice under modified