

Andaman Forest Department

*460. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hasda:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the profit and loss accounts of the Andaman Forest (Timber) Department for the year 1956-57 have been prepared;

(b) if so, what they are;

(c) what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to see that in future no loss will recur;

(d) the number of railway sleepers which have been supplied up-to-date; and

(e) whether there is any seasoning machine installed for sleepers and other purposes?

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

(b) A copy is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 66].

(c) The steps taken are:—

Reduction in the labour force; greater use of settlers as labour and enforcing strict economy in the purchase and use of stores and maintenance of launches.

(d) 11,000 sleepers have been produced and are awaiting inspection and shipment.

(e) Yes, a battery of Seasoning Kilns with a total capacity of 36 tons has already been set up at Chatham.

Congestion in Indian Ports

*461. { Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Wodeyar:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India requested the British

Government to supply expert advice on measures to remedy congestion in Indian ports and that a team of British experts has arrived in India?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): Yes, Sir. The services of a team of Experts were made available by the U.K. Government under the Colombo Plan to visit the Major Ports of Calcutta, Bombay, Vizagapatam and Madras and advise on cargo-handling and other port operation problems. The team has completed its work and has submitted its reports.

Family Planning

*462. Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the final decision taken as to the propagation of family planning; and

(b) the steps taken so far to propagate family planning?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Scheme of Family Planning has been included as a Centrally sponsored scheme in the Five Year Plan.

(b) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 67.]

Bongaigaon Workshop

*463. Shri Basumatari: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the workshop of Bongaigaon will be expanded for repairing coaches and wagons; and

(b) if so, the actual amount sanctioned for the expansion of the same?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Road Bridge on National Highway
No. 5**

*464. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1440 on the 3rd September, 1957 in respect of the Road Bridge on National Highway No. 5 and state:

(a) whether the estimate for the proposed bridge over the river Brahmani has been prepared; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). The estimate for the work has recently been received from the State Government and is under scrutiny of the Central Government. The work of construction is, however, not expected to be taken up early due to paucity of funds and foreign exchange difficulties.

Agricultural Expansion

*465. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only about 40 per cent of the increase in our irrigation potential is being made use of for expanding agricultural output;

(b) whether his attention has been drawn towards the disinclination of our peasants to use irrigation facilities in account of onerous rates; and

(c) Whether there is any scheme of lowering the rates in order to obviate consumer resistance?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 68.]

Rice Godowns

*466. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five rice godowns are being constructed in Manipur under the Technical Co-operation Administration programme during this year;

(b) if so, how much money has been granted for this purpose; and

(c) where these godowns are being constructed?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) In order to experiment on modern culture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) methods of storage of foodgrains, 50 prefabricated godowns were obtained under the TCM Aid and another 38 prefabricated godowns were obtained with Government of India Funds. Five prefabricated godowns are being erected in Manipur.

(b) The cost of the material of these prefabricated godowns is Rs. 1.88 lakhs. The estimated cost of their erection would be Rs. 3.69 lakhs. The total cost would thus be Rs. 5.57 lakhs.

(c) These godowns are being constructed at Imphal.

Transport Facilities in Himachal Pradesh

*467. **Dr. Y. S. Parmar:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Himachal Pradesh Government Transport have made no regular arrangement for the transport of goods from Paonta (District Sirmur, Himachal Pradesh) to Jagadhari;

(b) whether it is a fact that a lot of goods are lying at Paonta for lack of transport facilities;

(c) whether there is any proposal to start regular goods transport service or at least allow the parties concerned from adjoining areas of the Punjab to lift goods either way;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is difference of freight charged on the route between the private operators and Himachal Government Transport; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Although no regular goods transport service is being run, adequate arrangements have been made by the Himachal Government Transport for the transport of goods on this route.

(b) and (c). No.

(d) As this route is exclusively operated by the Himachal Government Transport, the question of difference in freight rates does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

Mail Sorting Vans

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

(a) whether the recent Conference of the Regional Heads of Post and Telegraph considered the question of coordination with Railways;

(b) whether the manufacture of Mail Sorting Vans will be accelerated; and

(c) how many new Mail Vans will be manufactured during the current year?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) 64, it is expected.

Flying of Air Taxes

*469. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Radha Raman:

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

(a) the extent to which it has been possible to allow air taxes to ply in India;

(b) the number of such air taxes plying at present; and

(c) what are the terms and conditions on which taxes are allowed to ply?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) to (c). It is presumed that the reference is to light aircraft used for hire. A statement is accordingly laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 69.]

Bhakra Nangal Project

*470. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1190 on the 26th August, 1957 and state the progress made with regard to the Irrigation and Power works under the Bhakra Nangal Project during 1957-58 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 70.]

Patna Golghar

*471. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken over the Patna Golghar; and

(b) if so, for what purpose that Golghar is being utilized?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jais): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir; to serve as an issue depot for wheat.

Post-retirement Passes

*472. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 696 on the 6th August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been arrived at with regard to removal of discrimination between Class

III and Class IV staff in the matter of grant of post-retirement passes; and

(b) if so, from when will it be enforced?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The matter is still under examination.

Private Air Services

*472. Shri Basumatari: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that by forcing the Private Operator to fly on the All India route via Bagdogra they are put to an additional cost of about Rs. 1,000/- per trip;

(b) whether this amount is very largely of Foreign Exchange and waste of imported aviation fuel and spare parts and equipment; and

(c) whether tariff rates of the private operator are comparable to I.A.C.?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Non-scheduled flights to Assam have to be operated via Bagdogra, as otherwise it would involve flying over East Pakistan. The regulations of Pakistan, in common with those of most other countries including India, do not permit foreign aircraft on non-scheduled flights to over-fly its territory without making a landing. Such flights have necessarily to make a detour which adds to the cost of operation. As the operational costs of different non-scheduled operators are not submitted to Government, it is not possible to say what is the exact additional cost of such routing.

(c) Since there are no fixed tariff rates for non-scheduled operations, it is not possible to make a comparison with the rates charged by the Indian Airlines Corporation.

Accidents due to Defective Handling of Steel Cargo

*474. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of accidents, some of them fatal, have been lately reported from various ports on account of defective handling of steel cargo; and

(b) what steps have been taken to prevent such accidents?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 71.]

(b) The steps taken to prevent accidents to workers engaged in handling iron and steel cargoes are (1) the use of mechanical handling gear (2) instructions of workers by Labour Supervisors in the correct and safe handling of cargo and (3) the strict observance of safety regulations.

Shore Labour in Madras Port

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

(a) whether the entire shore-labour in Madras Port is directly under the Madras Port Trust;

(b) whether the part of shore labour is still under the contract basis; and

(c) the action Government propose to take for uniform wage-rate for Dock workers?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). The Madras Port Trust directly employs shore labour only for the handling of import cargo other than Coal, bulk Phosphates and bulk Sulphur. All other labour is engaged by the Importer or Exporter concerned through contractors.

(c) So long as part of the labour required for handling cargo on shore is engaged by the contractors no uniform wage-rate can be ensured. The shore labour engaged directly by the Port Trust is proposed to be brought under a Piece-rate Scheme evolved by a Tripartite Committee which submitted its report on the 9th November, 1957. This Committee has recommended that the labour engaged in the handling of exports also should be taken over by the Port Trust and brought under the Piece-rate Scheme. When this recommendation is implemented the labour engaged through contractors will be appreciably reduced.

महेन्द्र घाट पर स्टीमरों को टक्कर

*४७६. श्री बिभूति मिश्र : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पटना में महेन्द्रघाट पर हाल में हुई स्टीमरों की टक्कर के फलस्वरूप कितने व्यक्ति गंगा में डूब गये या घायल हुए ;

(ख) इस दुर्घटना के लिये कौन उत्तरदायी है ; और

(ग) इस दुर्घटना के फलस्वरूप जिन व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई उनके परिवारों को और घायल व्यक्तियों को सरकार किस प्रकार की सहायता देने का विचार कर रही है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) :

(क) से(ग) जो सूचना मांगी गयी है उसका ज्ञान सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है ।
[वेकिये परिशिष्ट II, अनुबन्ध संख्या ७२]

Additional Railway Lines

579. **Shri Sugandhi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government have taken into consideration the probable fall in rail traffic, due to regional self-sufficiency in food production, and other raw materials diminishing in volume due to on-spot processing or semi-

processing, while providing for new or additional lines in the Second Five Year Plan period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): Rs. 1125 crore Railway Plan provides for an increase in freight traffic of 42 million tons during the Second Plan as under:—

(a) Steel including coal	25 million tons.
(b) Coal excluding requirements for steel	6 " "
(c) Cement	4 " "
(d) Miscellaneous	7 " "
Total	42 " "

From the above it will be seen that the impact of traffic in foodgrains has not been separately provided for but is grouped with the miscellaneous traffic, item (d). The provision made for such traffic is so small that no reduction on this account is called for.

The Plan provides for construction of 842 miles of new lines to suit:—

- (i) the operational requirements; and
- (ii) the requirements of the expansion in steel and coal industries.

Minor Irrigation Schemes in Tripura

580. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of minor irrigation projects recommended by the Directorate of Agriculture of Tripura to be taken up;

(b) the reasons for not taking up these projects; and

(c) whether shortage of rainfall during this year has added importance to these irrigation projects to a great extent?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No Minor Irrigation Projects have so