

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mehdiuddin): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Soil Survey

*1788. { Shri Ghosal:
Shri K. U. Farman:

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

(a) whether any State has prepared tentative soil-maps for operating a scheme for Rapid Reconnaissance Soil Survey; and

(b) if so, what are those States?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. F. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Yes. Tentative soil maps for some districts have been prepared by a number of States, namely Uttar Pradesh, Madras, Bihar, West Bengal, Bombay, Punjab, Kerala, Orissa and Himachal Pradesh. Soil Survey is still in progress in some of these States and has also been taken up in others e.g., Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Shri Ghosal: May I know if on the basis of these data, field work and detailed survey and actual delineation of soil boundaries will be started, and if so, when?

Dr. F. S. Deshmukh: If the hon. Member is asking me when this work will be complete, I must say that it is a stupendous work. It is very detailed and a lot of data are to be collected. But we have made a provision of Rs. 65 lakhs in the Second Five Year Plan and we will see how far we can go.

Derailment of Goods Train

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*1789. { Shri N. B. Maiti:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Dr. Pashupati Mandal:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 15 goods wagons of a goods train capsized

at about 10 p.m. on the 15th March, 1956 between Bankura and Chhatna on Adra-Kharagpur section of the South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, what are the causes of accident?

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

(b) The cause is under investigation.

Bharat Tramway Company

*1791. Shri Yajnik: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how often the Government Inspector of Railways has enquired into the working of the Bharat Tramway Company operating between Surender Nagar and Wadhwan in Saurashtra, since 1954 when the Indian Railways Act was applied to that Company;

(b) whether copies of his Reports will be laid on the Table; and

(c) what action has so far been taken on the recommendations of the Reports received and with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The Government Inspector of Railways has carried out three inspections of the Tramway, in February 1956, March 1957 and March 1958.

(b) Yes, Sir. The copies of his report are laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT-670/58].

(c) Defects observed by the Government Inspector of Railways are pointed out to the Company for removal. These instructions are complied with. Any defect outstanding is again pointed out in the following Year's report. The Government consider that the Government Inspector's reports are generally satisfactory and call for no action by them.

reports have been received on the

Shri Yajnik: May I know if any

bridges according to the recommendations of the Government Inspector of Railways by the PWD officers, and if any action has been taken on these reports, because in the last report it is found that the bridge on the Bogawa river is in a most unsatisfactory condition?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: There are a number of bridges, and the Government Inspector of Railways, whenever he inspects this line, also carries out inspection of the bridges. Generally, the condition of the bridges is satisfactory, but in some cases the plaster was found falling off and needing certain repairs. Those repairs are carried out.

Shri Yajnik: May I know if the rules of operation that were recommended to be made by the operating company have been drafted and sent to the Railway Board and published in the gazette, because these rules are very important and essential for the benefit of those who are using this track?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I require separate notice regarding this particular question whether the rules have been published in the gazette or not. But I would like to submit that this line is only $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles long and it is operated only on a single engine system. So it does not require very elaborate rules.

Shri Tangamani: From the statements, we find that the reports by the Inspector of Railways for 1956-57-58 are more or less identical. But in the earlier statement, we find that the manager of the tramway has no technical qualifications, and the administration has to arrange for annual inspection by the PWD inspector. May I know whether Government will request them to appoint a suitable qualified person as manager or as assistant?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: It is up to the company to decide who is going to serve their interests best. The manager is not a technical man as far

as the inspection of the bridges is concerned, but I presume he knows something about the operation of trains.

Shri Yajnik: May I know if the Deputy Minister is aware that among the bridges that are there—there are about five or six, then culverts and so on—one is a very big bridge and the Municipality of Wadhwan has definitely stated that severe restrictions should be imposed on the company for ensuring the safety of the passengers and restrictions should also be imposed on the number of carriages that are attached to the tramway? Is the Minister aware that these precautions are not being taken and there is a serious danger of this bridge sometime giving trouble to the tramway and the passengers, and Government are taking a very serious risk in allowing this tramway to get along on the road in spite of the very unsatisfactory condition of the bridge on the Bogawa river? There is no use lamenting after the event, as usually happens.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: That is not what our information is. We do not have any such information and we do not think that there is any danger to the safety of train operation.

Shri Yajnik: The Municipality has said that. May I ask one more question?

Mr. Speaker: No.

Shri Yajnik: The fact is that this tramway connects directly with a big railway junction. Would Government, therefore, consider the advisability of taking over this tramway company so that the passengers might have all the benefits of the railway routes?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: Government have no intention of taking it over.

Mr. Speaker: I wanted to avoid this question as being a suggestion. All the same, an answer has been given.