

सेत से सड़क तक के रास्तों को निकालने के लिये कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं ।

कुछ नाजायज कम्बो हुए हैं । इन नाजायज कम्बो को हटाने के लिये चक्रवर्ती के भ्रफसतों द्वारा कार्यवाही की जा रही है ।

#### Steamer Service between Palezaghat and Mahendrughat

\*1250. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that from April 1958 till June 1958 the steamer service between Palezaghat and Mahendrughat had become very irregular due to shortage of steamers and the passengers were put to great inconvenience;

(b) whether it is a fact that one "tug" sank recently while engaged in salvaging a steamer near Mahendrughat; and

(c) if so, the number of casualties and the amount of loss to the Railway property?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) No, but with effect from 17-4-1958 due to other steamers used on the service being damaged, train Nos. 45 Dn and 91 Dn have been coupled from Palezaghat to Sonapore and the passengers of these trains are being carried by one steamer leaving Mahendrughat at 19:45 hrs.

(b) No, but one steam Launch placed at the disposal of N.E. Railway's Ferry Superintendent at Dighaghat sank near Mahendrughat on 26-4-1958.

(c) The Ferry Superintendent lost his life. The original cost of the Launch at the time of purchase in 1884 was Rs. 11,904 and the scrap value Rs. 2,000 approximately.

#### Bombay Steam Navigation Company

\*1251. **Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bombay Steam Navigation Company Ltd., have asked for foreign exchange for replacement of machines for their passenger steamers;

(b) whether it is a fact that they have also asked for aid to continue their steamer service; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by Government in the matter?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have already agreed to release Rs. 15 lakhs in foreign exchange to the Bombay Steam Navigation Co. for replacements of the boilers in some of their passenger ships operating in the Konkan trade. However, the Company has not availed of this release of foreign exchange. The Company's request for financial assistance to enable them to continue to maintain the Konkan Service is still under consideration.

#### Seed Multiplication Farms

\*1252. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that each Development Block should be self-contained unit for seed multiplication and distribution; and

(b) the steps taken in this regard so far?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) and (b) Yes, a Scheme has been undertaken during the Second Five Year Plan for making each Development Block to be self-contained unit for multiplication and distribution of improved seed. The Scheme envisages setting up of seed farms of 25 acres each in

each C.D. N.E.S. Block. 4328 seed farms have been targetted to be set up during the Second Five Year Plan. Against this, 3488 farms have been targetted for the years 1956-57 to 1958-59 and 1860 farms have been set up so far.

#### Perambur Railway Workshop, Madras

\*1254. **Shri Anthony Pillai:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workmen employed at the Perambur Railway Workshop at Madras absented themselves from work on the day the city workers observed a hartal consequent on firing on workers in the Port of Madras;

(b) if so, how many;

(c) whether the continuity of service has been restored for the men who absented themselves; and

(d) if so, for how many?

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

(b) 11,870.

(c) Yes, in the case of all those who had declared individually in writing that they had no intention to strike.

(d) 9,096 upto 28th August, 1958.

#### Co-ordination between Road Transport, Road Construction and Manufacture of Vehicles

\*1255. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any co-ordination between road construction, road transport and manufacture of vehicles for road transport; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of the organisation which brings about such co-ordination?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). The

required information is given in the statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

#### Statement

The Roads Wing of the Department of Transport, which is directly responsible for construction and maintenance of National Highways only, keeps close liaison with the States regarding the formulation of Road plans and programme as well as the construction and development of road generally; and co-ordinates this activity with the road transport policies of the Ministry which are handled by another wing of the Department of Transport. Manufacture of vehicles is, however, the responsibility of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, but co-ordination between the requirements of road transport and the programme for automobile manufacture is provided through the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Secretaries on Automobile Industry, of which the Transport Secretary is a member and which deals with all major issues. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry also consults the Department of Transport on day to day matters relating to production of vehicles and spare parts, their price fixation and import policies.

#### Bridge over River Ghagra at Dohright

\*1256. **Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1704 on the 11th September, 1957 and state the progress since made in construction of a bridge over River Ghagra at Dohright?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** The construction of a permanent bridge has been given low priority on account of financial limitations and restrictions on foreign exchange expenditure and as an interim arrangement the question of constructing a temporary boat bridge is at present being considered.