

(b) 340.

(c) Yes, for some of them.

(d) and (e). Two hundred and ten have been selected for appointment in other undertakings and are at present awaiting appointment orders, while two have already been provided with alternative employment. All-out efforts are being made to provide alternative employment for the remaining retrenched personnel as quickly as possible.

#### Assam Line of N.E.F. Railway

\*473. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether any steps have so far been taken to replace the over-aged wagons operating on the Assam line of the N.E.F. Railway; and

(b) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 134.]

#### Over-bridge in Jangpura

\*474. { Shri Siddananjappa;  
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy;  
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether the over-bridge in Jangpura on the Delhi-Mathura road has been damaged by the unprecedented rains in Delhi on the 20th July and 21st July, 1958;

(b) if so, the extent and nature of the damage;

(c) the reasons for the damage of such magnitude;

(d) the sum required to set it right; and

(e) whether Government have ordered an enquiry into the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). No, but the road surface over the approach to the Jungpura bridge subsided by about 1.5 feet in a length of 100 feet in one carriage lane, and one of the side slopes of the embankment was also scoured out in a length of about 95 feet.

(c) and (e) The Works, Housing and Supply Ministry have appointed a special investigation officer and further information will be available when his investigations are over.

(d) The contractors have carried out the repairs at their own cost amounting to about Rs 5,000.

#### Porterage Rates

\*475. Shri Rajendra Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the increase in distance from the steamer jetty to the place where the passengers take to train or other conveyances, the porterage rates are increased; and

(b) if so, whether the same practice has been applied at Palezghat this time?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Presumably the reference is to the shifting of the ghat from the permanent Mehendrugat site to Gandhighat in November, 1957. Porterage charges were enhanced from 4 annas to 5 annas per trip at this ghat, both on account of the longer distance and also the increase in the height of the bank from the river level.

(b) Enhancement of porterage charges at Palezghat has not been considered necessary, as the bank there is not high, and taking the height of the bank and the lead into consideration, the normal porterage charge, is considered reasonable.