

electric multiple coaches running between Howrah and Burdwan, Eastern Railway:

- (b) if so, the extent of the loss,
- (c) has there been any case of pilferage of the materials of these coaches; and
- (d) what steps Government propose to take to prevent the recurrence of such things?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir, Railways have suffered some losses

- (b) Approximately Rs 925/-
- (c) Yes, Sir
- (d) The following steps have been taken:

(i) Escorting of the different selected trains by Railway Protection Force Staff,

(ii) Keeping the doors of First Class Compartments locked in the shed and stabling yards

Import of Foodgrains

*739. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

- (a) whether any new agreements for the import of foodgrains have been arrived at during December, 1958 and 1959, and
- (b) if so, the names of countries with whom the agreements have been signed?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No, Sir

- (b) Does not arise

Production of Animals and Animal Products

*741. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of India have any plan to increase the production of animals and animal pro-

ducts in the Community Development and National Extension Service Blocks;

- (b) if so, the targets set for these; and
- (c) the number of technical personnel now working for such increased production?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir Schemes for increased production of animals and animal products have been formulated by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in the implementation of which preference is given to the block areas. The nucleus funds provided in the block budgets under the head Agriculture and Animal Husbandry are also utilised for the purpose

- (b) No targets have been fixed for the block areas

(c) The schematic budget provides for one Extension Officer (Animal Husbandry) and two stockmen for each block

Airstrip at Digha

*742. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

- (a) whether West Bengal Government has permitted a private airline company to build an airstrip at Digha for small aircrafts, and
- (b) if so, whether the Director General, Civil Aviation had given permission for this?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir

- (b) Prior permission of the Director General of Civil Aviation is not required for constructing an aerodrome

Sharavathy Hydro Electric Project

*745. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred