

the revision of the principle of allotment of railway wagons and creation of special types of priorities;

(b) if so, details of the suggestion; and

(c) the Government of India's reaction thereto?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No such proposal has been received from the Government of West Bengal.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Fertilizers for Tea Gardens

*1870. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how many agents have been appointed for the distribution of fertilizers to tea gardens in Assam;

(b) how many of them are from Assam and how many are outsiders; and

(c) whether through the system of these agents Government ensure that the fertilizers meant for the tea gardens in Assam are not diverted to other markets?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Twenty to serve the tea gardens in both Assam and West Bengal.

(b) Five of the firms have their Head Office in Assam.

(c) Allotment of fertilizers is made jointly for tea gardens in Assam and West Bengal and the distributors may sell to tea gardens in either State, but further movements are restricted under the Inorganic Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1960.

Death of Railway Employees at Itarsi Station

*1875. { **Shri R. S. Kiledar:**
Shri Chandak:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Railway employees working at Itarsi

railway station of the Central Railway recently lost their lives while a train was shunting there;

(b) who is responsible for the mishap; and

(c) what action is being taken to punish those guilty and pay compensation for the dependents of the two employees?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) None. The occurrence was accidental.

(c) (i) Question of punishment does not arise in view of the answer against (b) above.

(ii) Payment of compensation to the dependents of one employee who was killed on duty is being arranged. Meanwhile, an *ex gratia* payment of Rs. 200 has been sanctioned. Under the Workmen's Compensation Act, no compensation is due to the other deceased employee as he was not on duty.

Catering Contracts at Airports

*1880. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1644 on the 20th April, 1961 and state:

(a) what amounts have been paid by caterers to Government from year to year under the contract and profits made by them;

(b) what are the antecedents and other business of the caterers;

(c) what is the amount and pattern of investment made by the caterers;

(d) whether the same system of awarding contract as adopted in this case is followed in all contracts given by the Department of Civil Aviation; and

(e) if not, what is the other system and procedure and the reasons for the same?