

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohinddin): (a) I lay on the Table of the House a statement (I) showing the amounts of revenue derived by Government during the last 3 years from the catering contractors at the 4 international airports, viz. Palam, Dum Dum, Madras and Santa Cruz. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 51]. No information is available regarding the profits made by the contractors.

(b) and (c). I lay a statement (II) on the Table of the House giving the relevant information. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 51].

(d) and (e). The same system is followed at all other aerodromes in India so far as catering contracts are concerned.

Metre Gauge Railway Wagon Factory in Kerala

*1881. **Shri Jinachandran:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has recently asked for permission to start a medium engineering unit in the public sector in Quilon under State Government auspices for manufacture of metre gauge Railway wagons;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government; and

(c) whether sanction has been accorded? •

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) A demi-official reference has been received recently from the Minister of Industries, Kerala State, for setting up a factory at Quilon in the Public Sector for manufacture of M. G. Railway Wagons.

(b) and (c). The proposal is being examined by the Ministry of Railways.

Shortage of Wagons for Movement of Salt

*1883. **Shri Goray:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations from the salt producers of the Thana District complaining of the acute shortage of wagons; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to move salt from the site to the northern markets?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) A few complaints from the salt producers of a certain portion of Thana district served by the Western Railway were received. No complaints have been received from the portion of the Thana District which is served by the Central Railway.

(b) Every effort is being made to meet the demands of the salt producers in full.

Suspension of Ferry Service to Ceylon

*1884. { Shri Tangamanl;
Shri P. C. Borooah;
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ferry services to Ceylon from Dhanushkodi had been suspended; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir, temporarily on 18th and 19th April, 1961.

(b) At the instance of the Ceylon Government Railways due to emergent conditions which were prevailing in Ceylon.