

aware of the position whether it is within the capacity of these three mills that continue to work to crush all the 17 lakhs maunds of cane that remain?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): It is a very commendable performance, because all the mills in Bihar would be closed before the end of May. In fact, in U.P. many mills will be running in June. So far as the 17 lakhs maunds are concerned, that is the figure relating to 7th May and not today.

Shri Pataniandi: Sir, when there is sugar-cane available, why are they closing the factories? Why should not the Government insist on their keeping the factories open?

Shri A. P. Jain: All the cane would have been exhausted by that time.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Railway Accidents

*289. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of serious Railway accidents which occurred from 1st October, 1956 to 31st March, 1957?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Six.

Talcher-Rourkella Railway Line

*305. **Shri P. G. Deb:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when the proposed railway line from Talcher to Rourkella via Bar-kote be constructed; and

(b) whether it will be completed in the Second Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Only the portion Rourkella to Patasai is going to be constructed during the Second Five Year Plan.

Anchal Department of Travancore-Cochin

*306. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1150 on 13th December, 1956 and state whether the matter regarding the sanction of pay and allowances, on the Central Government scales for 1950-51, to the former employees of the Anchal Department of the former Cochin and Travancore State has been reconsidered and decision taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The matter has since been re-examined but the Government have not been able to discover any ground for a revision of the decision already taken in this behalf.

Posts and Telegraphs Circle, Kerala

*307. **Shri Kodyan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any demand for the constitution of a separate Posts and Telegraphs Circle for the new Kerala State and

(b) if so, what is the attitude of the Government of India towards it?

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

(b) At present no proposal for the reorganisation of Post & Telegraph Circles is under consideration of the Government.

Railway Fares on Fatehpur-Churu Line

*308. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fares for all the classes on the new Fatehpur-Churu Line are much higher than those on other lines in the same area; and