

was sent to investigate complaints of black-marketing in deck passage tickets on ships sailing between Madras and Singapore, has submitted a report to Government;

(b) if so, whether a copy of the same will be placed on the Table of the Sabha; and

(c) the action Government have taken to prevent black-marketing in tickets on ships on the Madras-Singapore run?

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

(b) A summary of the report of the Deck Passenger Welfare Officer, Madras, is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 26A.]

(c) To prevent black-marketing on Madras-Singapore run, the Eastern Shipping Corporation has introduced a system of advance booking through money orders. The British India Steam Navigation Co. has also introduced the same system at the Indian ports and the ports in Malaya and in addition this company has also introduced a system of registration for booking passages. Further steps are also under consideration.

Automatic Telephone Exchange at Madurai

***480. Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for installing Automatic Telephone Exchange at Madurai; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

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

(b) The construction of the building will be taken up this year; automatic equipment has already been ordered.

Committee to examine Railway Bridges

***481.** { Shri H N. Mukerjee:
Shri Prabhatkar:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has set up a Committee to examine the state of railway bridges throughout the country; and

(b) whether it will be possible for the said committee to complete its work before the onset of the Monsoon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Koyana Project

***482.** { Shri Assar:
Shri Sonawane:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has so far been made in regard to Koyana Project in Maharashtra;

(b) when the project is likely to be completed;

(c) how much expenditure has so far been incurred on the project;

(d) whether it is a fact that irrigation facilities will also be made available on the construction of the project; and

(e) if so, how many acres of land have so far been brought under irrigation?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 27.]

Baraset-Basrhat Light Railway

***483. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work on the construction of the broad