

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: They are numerous and therefore it will take long to mention them here.

Shri P. T. Chacko: Why not the laboratory used for Coconut Research be used for the arecanut research also, because the problems are the same?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That suggestion will also be taken into account.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Arecanut Committee was running side by side with the Coconut Committee under the same Secretary? And was not research done in the laboratory of the Coconut Committee? May I know what was the difficulty in not carrying on the work in the same laboratory?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That also amounts to the same suggestion; it will be duly considered.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Arecanut has no water while coconut has water.

GANGA-BRAHMAPUTRA WATER TRANSPORT BOARD

*1140. **Shri Dhusiya:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how many meetings of the Ganga-Brahmaputra Water Transport Board have taken place so far?

(b) Have the members reached any conclusions and if so, what?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Two.

(b) The Board is a standing body and has considered a number of preliminary problems connected with the improvement of navigation on the Ganga-Brahmaputra systems. The most important recommendation of the Board so far is that a Pilot Demonstration Project for testing the feasibility of using shallow draft tugs for towing barges on shallow stretches of rivers in India should be conducted under its own auspices in collaboration with the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration.

Shri Dhusiya: May I know, Sir, who are its members and how many of them are Government servants?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The Committee consists of a Chairman....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How many members?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Five members.

Shri Dhusiya: How many of them are Government servants?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: All the five, Sir.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May we know whether this Board is taking full advantage of the advantages held out by Government of the Sealands?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the question?

Shri Jaipal Singh: Is this Board taking full advantage of the amphibious advantages of the Sealands held out by the Government?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): I am sorry, I have not been able to follow the question.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, only a few days back we talked a lot about the wonderful amphibious Sealand aircraft. I want to know whether this particular Board has taken full advantage of the claims that have been made out by Government?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is it that the hon. Member is referring to?

Shri Jaipal Singh: I was told by the hon. Deputy Minister of Defence that this amazing aircraft is very, very suitable for calm waters and that sort of thing and I thought that it will be very useful for....

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It is primarily meant for purposes of Defence and not for purposes of transport.

COACHES FOR NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

*1141. **Shri B. N. Roy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to put into use the new types of coaches on the N.E. Railway in the year 1953-54;

(b) how many new coaches are required for replacement on that Railway at present; and

(c) whether any attempt is being made to manufacture them in the Railway Workshop at Gorakhpur?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) The arrears of replacement on the North Eastern Railway of passenger carriages as on 31-3-1953 are estimated at about 950, but many of these are in a fit condition to continue in service for some years.

(c) Yes. The Gorakhpur Workshops are being remodelled to manufacture more coaches than they could before.

Shri B. N. Roy: May I know, Sir, the percentage of the coaches that ought to have been sent for repairs to the workshop and that have not been so sent?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: All the coaches that are in a satisfactory running condition are not sent to the workshops for repairs and those that require repairs are, of course, sent to the workshops.

Shri Dhusiya: What is the number of these coaches, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: New coaches or old coaches?

Shri Dhusiya: I want to know the number of coaches that have been sent and the number that have not been sent.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Generally new coaches are not sent and old coaches are sent. Does the hon. Member want new coaches also to be sent?

Shri P. T. Chacko: Is the Government considering purchasing timber from Burma for making coaches in India?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I should like to have notice for this question.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: What is the capacity of the Gorakhpur workshop to produce coaches?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The producing capacity is 72 coaches per year. But we hope that by the year 1955-56, it may be increased to 100 coaches.

Shri Barman: Sir, is it a fact that some of the coaches in this railway are absolutely rotten and the roofs are leaky? The hon. Minister has said that by 31st March, 1953, there were 950 coaches that required replacement, but some will be usable for some years. May I know how many of these will be replaced in the year 1953-54?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I fully agree with the hon. Member that...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He should answer only the operative portion of the question, which is, how many new coaches will be put on the line in 1953.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: We have already received 101 coaches and some more are coming. This year we hope to put 186 new coaches on that line from German factories, and we hope to put another 60 coaches by the end of this year from Jessup & Co., which is a British firm, making a total of 246 coaches.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that there is a certain fixed time within which a coach has to go for repair to the workshop, and may I know why many of the coaches have not been sent to the workshop for repair during the scheduled time?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question is about manufacture, not about repairs.

Shri Sarmah: What is the number of coaches to be placed in the metre gauge section?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): You mean the total number of coaches in the metre gauge section of the railways throughout the country?

Shri Sarmah: Assam has got only metre gauge.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question relates to the North Eastern Railway. Whatever relates to facts and figures may be obtained by tabling a separate question.

परशियन गल्फ जापान काङ्ग्रेस

*११४२. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या वातायात मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत सरकार को मालूम है कि कराची में "परशियन गल्फ जापान काङ्ग्रेस" संगठित हुई है ;

(ख) क्या इस संगठन के अस्तर्गत जलपोत भारतीय तटवर्ती व्यापार में भी भाग लेंगे ; तथा