

रेगिस्तानी क्षेत्र का प्रसार

*१२०६. श्री बादशाह गुप्त : क्या काय तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारतवर्ष का पाकिस्तान की सीमा के पास स्थित रेगिस्तानी क्षेत्र १९४७ से अब तक कितना बढ़ चुका है ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): No information is available.

THROUGH TRAIN BETWEEN MADRAS EGMORE AND SALEM

*1207. Shri C. R. Narasimhan: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether representations have been made on behalf of the public South of Jalarpet served by the ex-South Indian Railway for restoring passenger-train connections to the Express trains running between Madras and Bangalore?

(b) What action has been taken on suggestions for running through trains between Madras (Egmore) and Salem Town?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes. Arrangements are being made to introduce one passenger train each way between Jalarpet and Salem Junction from 1-10-1953 connecting at Jalarpet with the Madras-Bangalore Express trains.

(b) No suggestions were recently made for the introduction of a through train between Madras (Egmore) and Salem Town. A suggestion was, however, made for the provision of a through bogie coach between Madras (Egmore) and Salem Junction. The matter was examined but the traffic offering did not justify the provision of such a through coach service.

TRANSFER OF POSTAL CIRCLE OFFICE FROM BELLARY

*1208. Shri Gadilingana Gowd: (a) Will the Minister of Communications

be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to change the Postal Circle from Bellary to any other place in the Mysore State?

(b) If so, have any representations been received from the Postal Services Unions and others against such proposal?

(c) What action has been taken by Government on these representations?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):* (a) Consequent on the creation of Kurnool Division, the headquarters of Bellary Division has been ordered to be shifted from Bellary to Shimoga.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter is being examined.

DEMANDS OF COLLIERIES WORKERS' UNION^s

*1209. Shri Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons that weighed with Government to refer the demand of Collieries Workers' Union for increase in wages to Industrial Tribunal as against Conciliation Board as was done previously; and

(b) what are the demands that will be adjudicated upon by the Tribunal?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) A number of workers' organisations have pressed for revision of the wages of coal miners. When over 1000 collieries situated in several coalfields are concerned, it is difficult to arrive at binding and enforceable agreements through conciliation. This can be achieved only through adjudication. When the last Conciliation Board was set up, the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, providing for compulsory adjudication had not come into force. The findings of the Conciliation Board suffered from the fact that they were not legally enforceable. Taking all these factors