

(b) Yes, as and when the progressive availability of coaches permits of this.

#### RAILWAY SENIORITY COMMITTEES

\*1404. **Shri Frank Anthony:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many Seniority Committees are at work in respect of all the Railways;

(b) the total expenditure so far incurred in respect of these Seniority Committees;

(c) whether the dates for the completion of the work of these Committees have been constantly extended;

(d) when the work of these Committees is likely to be completed; and

(e) whether it is a fact that a number of senior railwaymen have retired, in the meanwhile, without getting their proper seniority?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) None. All Seniority Committees were wound up in April, 1953.

(b) Rupees six lakhs approximately in all.

(c) to (e). Do not arise in view of the reply to (a). The staff who were in service on the date of integration and have retired already will have their seniority re-fixed in accordance with the orders for the purpose of confirmation.

#### RE-RAILING IN SOUTHERN RAILWAY

\*1405. **Shri Frank Anthony:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Engineering Department of the Southern Railway have asked for permission to undertake the re-railing of extensive sections because they are a potential danger to the travelling public;

(b) whether these requests have been turned down by the Railway Board;

(c) whether because of the dangerous condition of the track, speed restrictions have been imposed on many sections of the Southern Railway; and

(d) whether it is a fact that in spite of these speed restrictions, drivers complain of rough riding and lurching on these tracks?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No such case has come to notice so far.

#### RAILWAY SERVICE COMMISSION

\*1406. **Shri Frank Anthony:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Administration has received complaints of dissatisfaction among the staff on the score of irrelevant questions being asked by Selection Boards; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to ensure that the questions asked by selection boards are directed to ascertain the efficiency of the staff in their work and duties?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) No specific complaints have been received though the hon. Member has made certain general allegations in the past.

(b) Instructions have been issued to railways laying down how much weightage should be given to the various factors influencing selections.

#### SHOLAPUR SOIL CONSERVATION RESEARCH STATION

\*1407. **Shri Kanavade Patil:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any experiments are being carried on by the Sholapur Soil Conservation Research Station to