

(b) What steps have so far been taken to improve this portion of road?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Excepting the 53rd and 54th miles from Howrah on which some repair works are being carried out, the road is in good condition, though the section between Howrah and Serampore is very congested.

(b) It is proposed to construct a bye-pass to avoid the congested section between Howrah and Serampore and the survey work in this connection is already in progress.

LABOUR TRIBUNALS

***550. Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) what are the industries for which Tribunals have already been appointed for adjudication of disputes; and

(b) those for which such Tribunals are proposed to be appointed?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). So far as the Central Government is concerned, two one-member standing tribunals have been set up at Dhanbad and Calcutta, for adjudicating industrial disputes in undertakings which come within the Central sphere. Besides, *ad hoc* tribunals are also set up as and when necessary. No standing Tribunal has been set up for any specified industry. A three-member Tribunal was appointed in the year 1952 for the adjudication of industrial disputes concerning banking Companies, and another three-member Tribunal has been set up recently for the adjudication of disputes in the coal industry.

WELFARE INSPECTORS (SOUTHERN RAILWAY)

***551. Shri Veeraswamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the posts of Welfare Inspectors on the Southern Railway are filled by selection or by seniority;

(b) the qualification required for these Inspectors;

(c) whether any such posts were recently filled on the Southern Railway; and

(d) if so, how many and what is the number of Scheduled Castes among them?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) By selection from among serving railway staff.

(b) The duties of Welfare Inspectors have been laid down and the candidates should have an aptitude for the work which is of an outdoor nature. They should have knowledge of the basic conditions of service and be able to move freely with staff.

(c) Yes, in August 1953.

(d) Seven. None of them belongs to Scheduled Castes.

KUMBH MELA

***552. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total amount of money spent by the Railways on the Allahabad Kumbh Mela operations for handling additional traffic?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): The actual expenditure incurred is not known as returns have not yet been received but a total expenditure of about 45 lakhs of Rupees has been provided for in the Revised Estimate for works for Kumbh Mela.

BOTANICAL DRUGS

67. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of crude botanical drugs produced annually during the last five years;

(b) the quantity and value of such drugs exported annually in this period;

(c) the quantity and value of such drugs consumed annually by the indigenous pharmaceutical industry; and