KASHMIR P. AND T. DEPARTMENT

- *685. Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the employees of the Kashmir Post and Telegraph Department have been treated on the same level as other Government of India Posts and Telegraphs employees; and
- (b) the number of persons working in the Kashmir Posts and Telegraphs Department?
- The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): employees of all the Post Offices and a few Telegraph Offices in the State were already under the employ Government of India. The staff the Ex-State Telegraph and Telephone systems, which have now been taken over by Indian P. & T. Department with effect from 16-9-53 will be treated on par with other P. & T. employees excepting that in the matter of emoluments those who opt Central Service conditions will the P. & T. scales and others who do not so opt will remain on their Ex-State scales of pay and conditions.
- (b) 1107, out of which 378 officials have been taken over from the fammu and Kashmir Government on account of the integration of the Telegraph and Telephone systems.

AERODROME AT MALDA

- *692. Shri S. M. Ghose: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the proposal for the construction of an aerodrome at Malda, West Bengal, has been finally accepted by Government; and
- (b) if so, when the construction work is proposed to be taken up?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

INDIAN AIRLINES CORPORATION

*699. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether, while making new

appointments in the Indian Airlines Corporation the cases of retrenched personnel were considered?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Yes.

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR POLICY AND INDUS-TRIAL COSTS

- *703. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a committee has been appointed to examine the effect of labour policy on employment and industrial costs; and
 - (b) if so, what their findings are?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

TELEGRAPH OFFICES

- *704. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:
- (a) whether sanction has been accorded for the opening of telegraph offices at Banjar and Indora in Punjab; and
- (b) the reasons for the delay in opening them?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Stores are awaited.

PAY SCALES OF EX-STATE P. AND T. EM-PLOYEES

- *705. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the answer given to unstarred question No. 474 regarding pay scales of ex-State P. and T. employees asked on the 16th December, 1953 and state whether any decision has since been arrived at in regard to the grant of Central scales of Pay to ex-State Postal, Telephone and Wireless employees with effect from 1st April, 1950?
- (b) If so, what decision has been arrived at?