

So it is not a question of not recognising anybody else. It is a question of a man not being found suitable.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether it is a fact that some appointments are made even without any advertisement and such places are filled from the local men and not from other regions?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: No Class III appointments are made without duly advertising the same. Appointments to Class IV category of staff are made locally by the local railway officers without advertisement.

Shri Jaipal Singh: How many applications have been forwarded from the Exchanges at Chapra and Muzaffarpur?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I do not have that information with me now.

EXCHANGE OF MAILS WITH NEPAL

*1763. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Indian mails are not being exchanged with Janakpur Post Office in Nepalese Territory?

(b) If so, are Government taking up this matter with the Nepal Government?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No Mails are being exchanged with effect from 1st April 1954.

(b) Does not arise.

अमदान

*१७६४. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) कितने रेलवे स्टेशनों पर ग्रामीणों ने अमदान के रूप में निर्माण कार्य किया है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर रेलवे के राजी मजरा तथा कौनसेरी नामक रेलवे स्टेशनों पर ग्रामीणों ने प्लेटफार्म बनाये हैं ;

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने कौन सी सुविधाएं प्रदान की ; तथा

(घ) क्या सरकार का विचार उन संस्थाओं को सुविधाएं देने का है जो स्वेच्छा से रेलवे प्लेटफार्म और प्रतीक्षालय बनाने के लिये तैयार हैं ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) At 9 stations, only earthwork for platforms and erection of kucha huts have been carried out by the villagers of the area as a part of *Shramadan*.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) None except necessary directions for the execution of the work.

(d) Whenever such offers are made, they will be dealt with promptly.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या हम जान सकते हैं कि कौन सी रेलवे जोन में सब से अधिक अमदान में काम हुआ है ?

श्री शाहनवाज़ खाँ : जहाँ तक मुझे इस्म है नार्दर्न रेलवे में सब से ज्यादा काम हुआ है ।

RADIO LICENCES

*1766. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many Wireless Receiving Licences for 1954 have been renewed by 14th January, 1954; and

(b) how does the number compare with that of the previous year?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 6,16,116.

(b)—

Year	Total No. of BRLs.* at the end of Decr. of previous year.	No. of BRLs. renewed by 14th Jany.	Percentage licences renewed by 14th January.
1953	7,20,047	25,040	59.0%
1954	7,63,899	6,16,116	80.6%

*Broadcast Receiver Licences.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether any proposal is under the consideration of the Government to reduce the licensing fee as desired by the listeners?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As a matter of fact, the licensing fee is determined in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and Information and Broadcasting, and the initiative rests with them—both the initiative and the decision.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: May I know the machinery by which the omission to take out licenses is being watched?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Under the new system, the licences have to be renewed by 14th January, and then until the end of March we wait for renewals on payment of the prescribed penalty. In April, we collect information about licences not renewed, and in May we begin our anti-piracy work.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

*1768. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to work out the scheme to settle agricultural workers on reclaimed land as envisaged in the Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the States where it has been carried out?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):

(a) and (b). The Central Government have taken up a scheme for resettling 1,000 families of landless workers at a mechanised farm at Sultanpur in the Bhopal State. The State Governments have also been requested to formulate suitable schemes after conducting surveys of available cultural waste lands and the extent of landless labour population requiring resettlement in their respective States. Their replies are awaited.

* The original reply by the Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture reads as follows "The amount was sanctioned only in the latter part of the last year. This year we intend to spend about Rs. 50 lakhs, and already we have spent something, and about 200 families have been rehabilitated."

The reply printed above was sent by the Deputy Minister afterwards in substitution of the original reply.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether any step has been taken by the State Governments to grant financial assistance to co-operative groups of agricultural labourers for house building and purchase of agricultural materials as envisaged in the Plan?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That comes under co-operative farming. This is a State-owned farm. Under the Five Year Plan a sum of Rs. 1½ crores has been set apart, and the Centre, just to give initiative in the matter, has taken up starting a farm in Bhopal, and our plan is to settle about 1,000 families in 10,000 acres. That means about ten acres for each family. We have started the work in Bhopal in the Sultanpur area.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know the sum spent out of the Rs 2 crores earmarked in the Plan for the settlement of agricultural labourers?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The amount was sanctioned only in the later part of last year. This year we intend to spend about Rs. 50 lakhs, and already we have spent something, and about 200 families have been proposed to be rehabilitated*

Shri Achuthan: May I know whether the Government has any idea of bringing from Travancore-Cochin any landless labourers to be settled in Central India where land is reclaimed?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: In my reply I have stated that we have asked all the States to send us schemes about the possibilities in their respective States, the requirements of each State and the acreage of waste land available. The replies are awaited.

INDIAN TELEPHONE INDUSTRIES

*1770. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the annual requirements of ebonite for the Indian Telephone Ir-