

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research have sanctioned a research scheme for the improvement of turmeric in Guntur District of Andhra State. Its exact location has not yet been intimated by the Andhra Government.

The proposal to establish an Oilseed Research Station at Anantapur is still under consideration.

(b) The work on the turmeric Research Station will commence during 1954-55.

#### APPOINTMENTS IN P. AND T. DEPARTMENT

**\*1232. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that applications for employment in the Posts and Telegraphs Department from Bengalees, Mios, Manipuris and all other non-Assamese linguistic groups are considered only against vacancies in the Cachar Division; and

(b) whether Government are aware that this would mean denial of employment to important linguistic groups and tribal communities in different parts of Assam?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) No. Domicile is not a condition of recruitment under Central Government. In P. & T. Department knowledge of the local regional language or Hindi or Sanskrit is, however, necessary for recruitment to subordinate services.

(b) Does not arise.

#### T.B. HOSPITALS

**\*1233. Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the amount of grant given to T.B. institutions during the current financial year?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** Grants amounting to Rs. 12,42,197 have been sanctioned to various T.B. institutions in India during the current financial year.

#### RESERVED PERCENTAGE IN P. AND T. DEPARTMENT

**\*1234. Shri B. N. Kureel:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reserved percentage for certain communities in Services in the P. and T. Department has been filled; and

(b) if not, the percentage in the various circles?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) No.

(b) A statement showing the recruitment position during the year 1952 is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 59.] Figures for 1953 are being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House when completed.

#### UNLICENSED PORTERS ON RAILWAYS

**\*1235. Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that at several important Railway Stations porters are not licensed;

(b) whether Government are aware that licensed porters have been agitating against this practice; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps in this matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Porters are licensed at all stations. At a few stations, however, outsiders, such as juveniles and unemployed persons, occasionally gain unauthorized entry to station platform in order to carry passengers' luggage, and they are evicted on being detected.

(b) Some representations have been received from licensed porters against unauthorized persons carrying the luggage of passengers.

(c) Steps are already being taken by railways to eliminate unauthorized portage of luggage.