

LABOUR SITUATION IN COCHIN PORT

*1092. **Ch. Raghurir Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the labour situation in Cochin Port continued to be uneasy in 1953-54?

(b) If so, for what reasons?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) The uneasiness in the labour situation in the Cochin Port was due to the fact that several matters relating to the employment of Stevedore labour were pending with the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. The Tribunal has since given its award and it has been implemented.

GANGA BRIDGE PROJECT

*1093. { **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made on the preliminary work for Ganga Bridge Project; and

(b) the amount so far spent on the said Project?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Survey has almost been completed. The construction of staff quarters and office buildings is well in progress; pitching stones are being collected at site. An Indian Combine—Ganga Bridge Construction Co. has been selected for carrying out the work of the main bridge.

(b) Approximately Rs. 75 lakhs upto 30th June, 1954.

RAILWAY COMPENSATION LAWS

*1094. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the judgment of the Patna High Court wherein the court has pointed out a lacuna in the Railway Accidents

(Compensation) Rules, 1950 in so far as they have not provided for rates of compensation payable in respect of temporary disablement; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to amend the Rules?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) The question of amending the rules is under consideration.

COMMUNICATIONS IN FORMER PRINCELY STATES

*1095. **Shri Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Posts, Telegraphs and Telephone systems in erstwhile princely States have all been taken over by the Government of India; and

(b) if not, what are the areas of the former princely States where these systems are not yet under the complete control of the Central Government?

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

(b) Does not arise.

IMPORT OF TRACTORS

*1096. { **Shri G. P. Sinha:**
Shri Buchhikotalah:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tractors to be imported from Russia during 1954; and

(b) what will be the average price of a tractor?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) It is not possible to indicate at present how many tractors may be imported from Russia during 1954. Four tractors of 8.5 H.P. at the draw bar have so far been imported on Government account during 1954 for trial purposes.