

(b) if so, the estimated cost thereof; and

(c) by what time the construction of the bridge is expected to be commenced and completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes; it is proposed to construct bridges across the two branches of the river Godavari called Gautami and Vasista.

(b) Gautami bridge—Rs. 124.79 lakhs. Vasista bridge—About Rs. 65 lakhs.

(c) The Gautami bridge is expected to be commenced early in 1955 and the Vasista bridge in the latter part of 1955. It will take about five years for the construction of the Gautami bridge and about three years for the construction of the Vasista bridge.

हिन्दी

*१२४०. श्री एम० एन० सिंह : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मंत्रालय के प्रतिवेदनों, सांख्यिकीय और अन्य महत्वपूर्ण प्रकाशनों के हिन्दी संस्करण प्रकाशित करने का विचार है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह प्रस्ताव कब तक कार्यान्वित होगा ;

(ग) क्या रेलवे द्वारा कर्मचारियों की भरती और पदोन्नति के लिये समय-समय पर ली जाने वाली परीक्षाओं में हिन्दी एक विषय है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसका क्या कारण है ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). It is proposed to issue gradually Hindi editions of official publications, reports etc. of the Ministry of Railways.

(c) Hindi is not included at present as a subject for any recruitment or promotion examination conducted by Railways. But Gazetted

Officers, recruited to Railway services, are required to pass a departmental language examination in Hindi in the lower standard before they are confirmed.

(d) Any decision in this context will have to be taken for Central Government employees as a whole.

PALAM AIR-PORT

*1246. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to transfer the control of Palam Air-Port to the Communications Ministry; and

(b) if so, whether any separate air-port is proposed to be built for the Air Force?

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

(b) Does not arise.

SEAMEN'S HOSTEL AT BEHALA

*1250. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to complaints regarding the working of "Navik Griha" (Seamen's Hostel) at Behala near Calcutta;

(b) the accommodation provided there and the proportion of such accommodation actually occupied by seamen on an average each month; and

(c) whether Government contemplate granting them "food loans"?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Only one complaint of a minor nature came to Government's notice which was found to be baseless on enquiry.

(b) The Nabik Griha can accommodate a maximum of 256 seamen at a time. The accommodation actually occupied by seamen on an