

COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

*645. **Shri Tulsidas:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the end of June 1954, the Railway Board set up a Committee to review the capacity of railway workshops with a view to increasing their output;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted any Report to Government so far; and

(c) what are its recommendations regarding the new ranges of manufacturing to be introduced in the railway workshops?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). The Railway Workshop Reviewing Committee was appointed with effect from 1-6-54 with a part time Chairman in the first instance. The terms of reference of the Committee, are rather comprehensive and the work is not expected to be finished before the middle of next year.

FOOD ADULTERATION ACT

*650. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to implement the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954;

(b) the names of the States which have adopted the Act; and

(c) whether any rules have been framed under it and whether a copy thereof will be laid on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Framing of rules under the Act has been taken in hand.

(b) The Act extends to the whole of India except Jammu and Kashmir and will come into force on such date as may be notified by the Central Government. The question of adaptation of the Act by a State does not therefore arise.

(c) The rules are under preparation and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

HOLDING OF MAILS

*651. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the daily mail between Sagwara and Dungarpur was held up a number of times during the months of September and October, 1954;

(b) the dates when this occurred;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the arrangements which Government propose to make for the future?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) The mails were held up twice during September and once in October, 1954.

(b) and (c). (i) The hold up from 9-9-54 to 11-9-54 was on account of heavy floods in the river Antri which could not be crossed.

(ii) 15-9-54 to 17-9-54 and 18-10-54 to 21-10-54: The road was not negotiable by motor vehicles on account of rains. According to the contract the contractor should have engaged mazdoors to convey the mails but he failed to do so

(d) Instructions have been issued to the Postmasters to arrange conveyance of mails departmentally whenever the contractor fails to convey them in time except when the river is not crossable.

MINOR IRRIGATION SCHEMES OF MADHYA PRADESH

*656. **Mulla Abdullahai:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of new special minor irrigation schemes of Madhya Pradesh State have recently been approved by the Central Government;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for these schemes during the year 1954-55; and

(c) what is their number?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 1000.29 lakhs as loan.

(c) Thirteen.

COASTAL FISHING

***657. Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any financial assistance for improving coastal fishing during the year 1953-54; and

(b) the extent of such assistance given to each of the maritime States?

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

(a) Yes.

(b) The following grants were made under the Grow More Food Schemes:—

	Rs.
Bombay	49,000
Madras	1,68,000
Saurashtra	16,000
Travancore-Cochin	25,000

In case of Travancore-Cochin the Government of India also contributed Rs. 73,938, being 50 per cent. of the internal expenditure in respect of the Norwegian Aid Programme.

EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE SCHEME

***658. Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees' State Insurance Scheme has been enforced in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the total number of workers coming under the Scheme;

(c) how many establishments have been given exemption; and

(d) how many workers are involved in these exempted industries?

The Minister of Labour (Shri K. K. Desai): (a) Not yet.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

TOURIST TRAFFIC

***666. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government during 1954 to develop tourist traffic in India; and

(b) whether there are any new schemes therefor under consideration of Government?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The steps so far taken by Government during 1954 *inter alia* include (i) opening of new tourist offices at Bangalore, Aurangabad, Simla, Ootacamund and Darjeeling and the provision of special staff in Ceylon and Australia to look after publicity matters and to give information to tourist about India, (ii) provision of rail-cum-road and rail-cum-air concessions for visitors to Kashmir, (iii) participation in the British Industries Fair held in London in May 1954, Art Exhibition at Cairo in May 1954 and Lausanna Exhibition in September 1954, (v) improvement of communications etc. to Ajanta-Ellora, (v) Guides Training Schemes, (vi) subsidies to State Governments, and (vii) bringing out new publicity literature.

(b) The State Governments were requested to make a detailed survey of the tourists centres in their regions and to indicate to the Central Government the improvements that are required to be effected in the near future. On receipt of recommendations by the State Governments, the position will be examined, for the purpose of preparing a co-ordinated scheme.