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*838. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government own any light vessels; and

(b) if so, where they are used?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). As stated by me in reply to unstarred question No. 491 dated the 10th December 1952 asked by Shri Telkikar, the Government of India own two light vessels. They are used in the Saurashtra-Kutch Lighthouse District. One is located at latitude 21° 41' N longitude 72° 18'E and the other at latitude 21° 46' N longitude 72° 15' E.

NEW RAILWAY LINES

*841. Shri Bheekha Bhai: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether in pursuance of the announcement made by him that backward areas would be given priority in construction of new railway lines, any circular letter has been addressed to State Governments to furnish the names of their backward areas for the railway projects in the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) if not, the basis for selecting backward areas from various States for the Second Five Year Plan?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The Governments of all Parts 'A' & 'B' States have been addressed to furnish lists of new railway lines strictly in the order of priority which they would recommend for construction during the Second Five Year Plan Period and it is expected they will take into account all factors including the backwardness of the areas while furnishing their recommendations.

ARECANUT

*855. Shri Bhagwat Jia Azad: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the annual production and consumption of arecanut in India?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): Annual production is about 22 lakh maunds, and consumption is about 33 lakh maunds.

MASTER COMMITTEE

*856. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of additional pilots that could be appointed after the implementation of the recommendations of the Master Committee;

(b) whether the pilots who have already completed their training have since been employed; and

(c) if not, the number still unemployed?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). I lay a statement on the Table of the Sabha giving the required information. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 10.]

रेलवे बोर्ड में हिन्दी

*८५७ { श्री एम० एन० सिंहः श्री भोला राउतः

क्या रेखबे मंत्री यह बताने की क्रुपा करेंगे कि रेलवे बोर्ड के उन कर्मचारियों को हिन्दी पढ़ाने के लिये क्या प्रबन्ध किये गये हैं, जिन्हे हिन्दी नहीं आती है ?

रेखबे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के सभा-सचिष (भी झाहनवाज सां) : केन्द्रीय सरकार के हिन्दी न जानने वाले कर्मचारियों को, जिनमें रेलवे बोर्ड के कर्मचारी भी झामिल हैं, हिन्दी सिखाने के लिए शिक्षा मंत्रालय की ओर से हिन्दी कक्षायें खोली गयी हैं। रेलवे बोर्ड के कर्मचारी इसमे लाभ उठा रहे हैं।

INDIAN CENTRAL JUTE COMMITTEE

•858. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to