

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether there is any one from the Centre who is in general control of these stores matters?

Shri L. B. Shastri: One of the members of the Railway Board.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Any one member of the Railway Board, or an engineering member?

Shri L. B. Shastri: The man in charge of Engineering Section is also a member of the Railway Board.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Ministry of Industry and Supply were able to supply the stores that were required by the Railway Board for the Railways?

Shri L. B. Shastri: So far the supplies have not been very deficient. We have in our possession some surplus stores also.

Shri S. C. Samanta: In reply to part (a) the hon. Minister said "Yes". May I know whether all the Railways have been audited?

Shri L. B. Shastri: In fact the special examination by chartered accountants was in regard to the East Indian Railway and the B.B. and C.I. Railway, but not other Railways.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how far the special inspection has proceeded?

Shri L. B. Shastri: It has not been done on other Railways, but the inventory has been prepared by chartered accountants in regard to the East Indian Railway and the B.B. and C.I. Railway.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know what steps the Government have taken for avoiding excess indenting of stores as recommended by the Stores Committee?

Shri L. B. Shastri: We have disposed of certain stocks; and in future we will take care that we do not indent more than what we require.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government is aware that at many stations the inventory of the existing stores has not yet been completed?

Shri L. B. Shastri: If so, I shall see to it and shall inquire into it.

Shri Nambiar: May I know what steps the Government are taking to dispose of the old stocks of paper and other materials which have been stocked for something like 200 years?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Nambiar: If the stocks are there?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Hon. Members should take care to see that in putting a question they do not introduce any allegations or inferences or information which they may have received from outside. The moment they introduce any such thing, the question would be disallowed.

Shri Nambiar: The stores are there.

Mr. Speaker: I do not want to dispute the facts. The facts may be correct.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister has supplied the figures for 1951. May I know why the figures for 1950 and 1952 were not supplied?

Shri L. B. Shastri: They were not available. The chartered accountants compiled the inventory for the period ended 31st March, 1951.

JET PLANES FOR CIVIL AVIATION

*1469. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to utilize Jet planes for Civil Aviation in India;

(b) if so, when such services are likely to commence;

(c) what efforts are being made to obtain Jet planes for this purpose;

(d) whether any orders have been placed and if so, with whom and for how many; and

(e) when are the deliveries expected?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (e). There is no proposal to utilize any pure jet type of aircraft in India.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is the Government fully informed, Sir, of the development of jet planes?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He knows that these questions are inadmissible.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN TRAVANCORE-COCHIN

*1470. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the condition of the roads in Travancore-Cochin taken over as National Highways; and

(b) whether any portion of the said roads has been metalled, tarred or concreted and if so, how much?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Yes.

(b) 32½ miles have black-top surface, 41½ miles have cement-concreted surface and about 170 miles have water bound macadam surface. There is no section of National Highways which is not provided with a hard crust.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know, Sir, whether the Ministry of Transport has assumed the entire liability for the west coast road in Travancore-Cochin?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Yes, we have.

Shri Achuthan: May I know, Sir, what is the amount contributed by the Central Government in metalling these roads?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Well, we have provided in the budget four lakhs of rupees for original works development and for maintenance and repairs six lakhs and twelve thousands.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know, Sir, whether investigation had been made for the siting of bridges?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Yes.

Shri A. M. Thomas: What are those bridges, Sir?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Avoor and Periyar Bridges.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know, Sir, whether the present line of the west coast is proposed to be changed?

Shri L. B. Shastri: I have no idea.

TRICHUR-KOLLENGODE RAILWAY LINE

*1471. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any survey was at any time made regarding the possibility of linking Trichur with Kollengode by rail?

(b) If so, what is the result?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Traffic and Engineering surveys for this line were last carried out in 1946-47.

(b) The survey reports revealed that the anticipated earnings of the line would not be sufficient to cover even the working expenses. Moreover, adequate road transport facilities are already available on this section. The Central Board of Transport decided therefore that the proposal should be dropped.

Shri A. M. Thomas: What was the estimated cost of the line?

Shri L. B. Shastri: The estimated cost is for broad-gauge about 3 crores and 2 lakhs and for metre-gauge lines two crores and fifty-nine lakhs.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know the length of the line?

Shri L. B. Shastri: I am sorry I shall require notice.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know, Sir, whether having regard to the number of years that have passed after investigation, the Government will again take up the matter?

Shri L. B. Shastri: We do not take up the matter just at present. We may consider it later.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether it is the policy of the Government that when a survey is already made, a line will be constructed through that area at least?

Shri L. B. Shastri: That is not so. Survey is first made and then other factors are taken into consideration before taking a final decision.

F.A.O. FELLOWSHIPS

*1472. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that F.A.O. has granted some travelling fellowships to Indian students for training abroad in cafeteria system?

(b) If so, how many fellowships have been granted?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) Three.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, the value of the travelling fellowships?

Shri Kidwai: Well, the travel cost from this country for this training would be borne by the Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture out of the grant given to N.I.W.F.C. The rest of the expenditure including subsistence allowance, tuition fees and travel cost necessary within the country to be visited will be borne by the F.A.O.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the F.A.O. has agreed to send an instructor for a catering training institute here?

Shri Kidwai: The F. A. O. will meet part of the cost and the grant made to the N.I.W.F.C. will meet the balance.