

posal to connect Vijapur to Ransipur by a railway line but the project has been postponed.

(b) The former Baroda State had, in 1920, applied for, and obtained, sanction for the construction of a railway line from Vijapur to Vadnagar. But only a little before the merger of the Baroda State in Bombay, earth work was started by the Baroda Government as a famine relief measure and completed to a certain extent. As the original Government sanction was accorded more than thirty years ago, a fresh examination was thought necessary before further construction was undertaken. It was later decided to postpone the project as it could not be considered to merit sufficient priority from the national standpoint. Preliminary investigations also showed that the project would not be financially justified.

#### KANGPOKPI-TAMANGLONG ROAD

\*542. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) how far the road building from Kangpokpi to the Hill Sub-Division of Tamanglong in Manipur State has progressed;

(b) the amount invested in the road development Scheme for Manipur State; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the road under construction, after touching Tamanglong Sub-Division will be diverted towards Tiribom Sub-Division of Manipur, which has no communications at all to link up with any administrative units of the State?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) Work on the first 26 miles of the road from Kangpokpi was commenced on 15th March 1952 and so far about 32 per cent. of the earth work has been carried out. Detailed estimates and plans for the remaining section (52 miles) are under preparation.

(b) The five-year road development plan for Manipur State includes a tentative provision of Rs. 25 lakhs for this road, out of a total provision of Rs. 81.25 lakhs.

(c) There is no proposal at present to extend the road beyond Tamanglong.

#### COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES

\*543. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commissioner for the Welfare of the Scheduled Castes has concluded his fact-finding tour;

(b) whether he has submitted any interim report; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the salient features of the said report?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) and (b). The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has submitted a report, as required under Article 338(2) of the Constitution.

(c) The report is under examination and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

#### MINISTERIAL STAFF

\*544. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission have been accepted as far as the Ministerial staff of the Railways are concerned?

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

#### MOVEMENT OF RICE AND CATTLE BETWEEN MANIPUR AND ASSAM

\*545. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government are aware that there is no effective control on the movement of rice and cattle between Manipur and Assam?

(b) What steps have been taken to ensure a fair price for rice-growers in Manipur?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) There is effective control over movement of rice between Manipur and Assam. No restrictions, however, exist on movement of cattle between these States.

(b) With a view to giving the rice-growers, as distinct from the middleman, a fair price, the State Government have fixed procurement price of rice at Rs. 11 per maund from January, 1952 as against Rs. 7/2/- to Rs. 10/13/- per maund in 1951.

#### D. M. COLLEGE STRIKE

\*546. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether it is a fact that troops were called out and firing resorted to, during the D. M. College strike at Imphal?