

(a) whether it is a fact that certain new Railway lines were surveyed in Nellore District (Madras State);

(b) if so, what those surveyed lines are and whether it is proposed to take up any one of those surveyed for execution; and

(c) if not, why not?

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

(b) and (c). The following Railway lines in Nellore District were surveyed in the past:—

1. Ollapaliem-Singarayakonda-Kanigiri.
2. Kavali-Udayagiri.
3. Cumbum-Kalahasti-Madras.
4. Nellore-Kanigiri.

It is not proposed to take up any of these lines for execution at present.

Adequate justification was not found for construction of any of the above lines when they were surveyed.

DELHI IMPROVEMENT TRUST

***1632. Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of profit earned by the Delhi Improvement Trust upto the 14th August, 1947 and after the 15th August, 1947 so far;

(b) whether the necessity of providing land for building houses to Government employees and others who have to stay in Delhi has ever been considered by the Delhi Improvement Trust; and

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to take to solve the housing problem of the middle class people in Delhi?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The Improvement Trust is not a profit making body. Any profit it makes by the sale of land in its development schemes is consumed by expenditure on slum clearance schemes which are deficit schemes. It is understood that the Trust has at present a deficit of over Rs. 17 lakhs.

(b) The Trust has no special responsibility for the provision of land to Government employees as such. However most of the Improvement schemes of the Trust are directly or indirectly Housing Schemes. The Trust has so far developed about 1500 acres of land for housing purposes in different parts

of the city. It also transferred about 2260 acres of land to the Rehabilitation Ministry for the purpose of housing displaced persons. The Trust has so far constructed 527 houses for housing people displaced by the clearance of slums and 336 quarters for the same purpose are under construction.

(c) The whole question of Housing is under the consideration of Government.

EXTRA DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEES

***1633. Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Extra Departmental Staff are granted leave with pay and provided with provident fund facilities?

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

CENTRAL PAY COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

***1634. Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have not implemented the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission regarding the dearness allowance and educational assistance to Railway employees and if so why?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): When the scales of pay recommended by the C.P.C. were introduced in 1947, their recommendation in regard to the quantum of dearness allowance that should be granted in relation to the cost of living index obtaining at that time was fully implemented. Consequent on a subsequent rise in the cost of living, this matter has been reviewed from time to time and in order to alleviate the hardship caused thereby, particularly to the lower paid employees, Government have increased the quantum of dearness allowance in respect of these employees, keeping in mind the necessity to avoid serious deficits in the Budgetary position and to keep down the forces of inflation.

It has not been possible for the Government to accept the recommendation of the Central Pay Commission in regard to the grant of special financial assistance towards the cost of education of children of Government employees on grounds both of principle as well as the difficulties which, in practice, would be experienced in ensuring an even distribution of the benefits of any such scheme amongst all employees concerned.