

POSTAL FACILITIES DURING ELECTIONS

*1116. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether accurate information is now available regarding the extent of the additional service rendered by the Post and Telegraph Department during the General Elections;

(b) the sums of money set apart for this work and the actual expenditure incurred;

(c) whether the Postal employees engaged in various election duties were given facilities to record their votes; and

(d) the expenditure incurred by Postal employees in connection with allowances, travelling expenses and other movements due to Elections?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 50.]

Fuller information regarding certain of the items of additional service is being collected and will be furnished later on.

(b) No specific provision was made for this purpose. Information regarding total expenditure is being collected.

(c) Yes.

(d) Information is not available. Government do not propose to collect it as the labour and expense involved will not be commensurate with its usefulness.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if the facilities which were provided during the elections by the Postal Department were fully utilised by the public?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We hope so, Sir.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if all the expenditure set apart for the election work has been utilised or some saving has been effected?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In reply to part (b) I have already said that no specific provision was made for this purpose.

LOCOMOTIVES

*1117. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the cost of locomotives manufactured at Chittaranjan comparing it with the cost of locomotives imported from other countries?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): It is difficult at this stage to estimate the ultimate cost of a locomotive manufactured at Chittaranjan, though it is expected to be comparable to the landed cost of a similar imported locomotive, which is about Rs. 5 lakhs. In the first few years when production is being established and has to reach capacity, the cost of manufacture will naturally be higher than such landed cost.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know, Sir, whether all the parts of our locomotives are manufactured in this country?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Yes, it is planned to manufacture all the parts in India.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know, Sir, whether any of the materials required for such manufacture are imported from other countries?

Shri L. B. Shastri: No. We have got all those materials here in this country.

STAFF CARS

*1118. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cars and trucks in use at Government expense in (i) Secretariat (ii) Departments under the control of his Ministry at present; and

(b) the annual expenditure on these during 1951-52?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) (i) 3 cars only.

(ii) 69 cars and 194 trucks.

(b) Rs. 15,813-6-3 in the Secretariat and Rs. 20,67,426-12-0 in the offices under the control of the Ministry.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: What was the total number of cars in use during the year 1951-52?

Shri Satish Chandra: Sir, the number of vehicles in use was 66 cars and 194 trucks.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: At what cost?

Shri Satish Chandra: I have said, Sir, that the recurring expenditure was Rs. 20,67,426.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: How many have been disposed of during 1951-52?