

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Acc. 25372

(Part I—Questions and Answers) Date 08.12.2014

1657

LOK SABHA

Monday, 20th December, 1954

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MAIL SERVICE

*1368. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any further progress was made during the period from the 1st November, 1953 to the 31st October, 1954 in the matter of replacement of Runners' Lines by Mail Motor Service with a view to providing expeditious mail service in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the number of cases and the mileage involved in such replacements

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) 183 Runners' lines involving a total mileage of 3107 miles have been converted into mail motor lines.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether, under the scheme, it is only the metalled portions that are to be taken up, or are being taken up, or the unmetalled link lines are also contemplated to be taken up?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Our intention is to replace the runners' lines by mail motor, wherever we find buses plying.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Has any comprehensive scheme been drawn up

583 LSD.

1658

to achieve a certain target within a specified period?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Wherever there are motorable roads and we find motor buses plying, we at once try to replace the runners' lines by motor service.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know what would be the mileage that would be left over even after the scheme is exhausted, where motor service would not be feasible?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The number of runners' lines on which motor services are not operating is 13,672 with a mileage of 73,404.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether Government is contemplating any scheme by which the bus-owners if they do not tender to carry mails can be compelled to do so, for the sake of the convenience of the public?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In this matter our experience is that there is no difficulty in persuading these people to carry our mails.

PEPPER DEVELOPMENT FUND

*1369. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to para. XV on page 37 of the Spices Enquiry Committee's Report and state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on setting up a Pepper Development Fund and if not, why; and

(b) whether any amount realised from the export duty of Pepper has been spent by Government towards research in evolving disease resistant and higher yielding varieties or setting up special nurseries?