

were other items in which India, as a Member country of the Council took part.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** May I know the number of Indian personnel in the F.A.O.?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It does not arise out of this question.

#### RAILWAY BRIDGES

\*1388. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether some suggestions have been made to Government for widening the drainage channel under the Railway bridges in flood-affected areas of North Bihar; and

(b) if so, the names of bridges suggested for the purpose and the decision of Government thereon?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Suggestions received were for widening the existing bridges and provision of additional bridges between Nirmali and Manigachi with special reference to Balan river bridge between Ghoghardiha and Nirmali Railway Stations. A final decision is yet to be taken, as the matter is under investigation and the question of flood control is also being considered by the Technical Advisory Committee of the State Flood Control Board.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I expect that this bridge will be taken up and completed before the next floods come in?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** It is difficult to say anything definitely about it. Unless the investigations have been completed, I cannot give the exact time when the work will be completed.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether the Government is aware

of the fact that there is a feeling among the Engineers in North Bihar that the old B.N.E.R. constructed the line in a haphazard manner and that is responsible for this and whether there will be some diversion in the present railway line in that area?

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** The Flood Control Board is looking into this matter and they are making enquiries. The Railways will abide by the decision that is arrived by the Flood Control Board.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** May I know if the Government propose to evolve a standard design for bridges having regard to the possibility of recurring floods in almost all parts of the country?

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** I do not know how it arises. There cannot be a standard type. The design will have to be different in accordance with the conditions of the rivers.

#### RURAL POSTAL SERVICES

\*1389. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether door to door delivery of letters and money orders has been discontinued in rural Post-Offices?

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

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that a very large number of payees have to come to the post offices so many times and they are returned after being told that money is not available and by this, they are put to hardship and inconvenience?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Above a particular limit, money orders are delivered at the post offices. Village postmen and extra-departmental delivery staff are allowed to distribute money orders up to a particular monetary limit. In case the limit is exceeded, notice is given to the

payee and the payee collects the money from the post offices. The monetary limits are these. For a village postman, the money order limit is for a single money order Rs. 40/-. The ordinary postman may be allowed to carry up to an aggregate amount of Rs. 600. An extra-departmental delivery agent may carry up to Rs. 200/-. In the case of village postman it is Rs. 100. If in any post office the amount was not there for payment, I would be grateful if a complaint is made to me about it.

**Shri S. N. Das:** I wanted to know whether any complaint has so far been received that especially the female payees were put to these troubles and told times out of number that money was not available and whether the Government will enquire into this matter.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Such a complaint has not come to our notice. I would be grateful if any case is brought to my notice.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Sinhasan Singh.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** May I know whether the Government will consider reviving the system of delivery by peons in the village homes, as it used to be?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** There is no change in the system in this respect.

**Mr. Speaker:** I may remind hon. Members who put questions that I just stop for some time to see whether the Member who has put the question is ready to put any supplementary questions. Then, I go to others. I think Members are taking it rather easily. I cannot wait for a long time. Members should immediately try to catch my eye. Otherwise I will proceed to the next question.

**श्री सिंहासन सिंह :** क्या सरकार को यह नालम है कि दहातों में जो पोस्ट ऑफिस खुले हैं उन में मनी आर्डर आने के बाद भी महीनों तक वह जनता को नहीं मिलते हैं और अक्सर जो एम्प्लॉयमेंट केसज चलते हैं उन में कड़

नहीं होता है। इस के लिये गवर्नमेंट क्या कर रही है ?

**श्री राज बहादुर :** मैं ने बताया कि एंसी शिकायतें कभी कभी आती हैं कि मनी आर्डर वक्त पर नहीं मिलते। और इस के बारे जो शिकायत आती हैं उस के बारे में जांच कही जाती है। इस के अलावा अगर कोई खराबी आम तौर पर नजर में आई हो तो उस पर भी ध्यान दिया जायेगा।

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know if the Government are aware that the village postmen deliver a bunch of letters to one man to be delivered in that particular village instead of delivering them to the addressees?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The system is that the village postman or the extra-departmental delivery agent has to deliver letters at the homes of the addressees. In case the volume of traffic for a particular post office is not high, the extra-departmental post master is given an allowance for taking up the work of delivery also, and he utilises his agents to do the work. In any case, delivery is expected to be made at home.

**Mr. Speaker:** Dr. Satyawadi. Shri Veeraswamy.

**Some Hon. Members:** Dr. Satyawadi is here.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member must immediately get up. Further, he has changed his place. He was sitting in the corner here. He has gone further there. Anyway, Dr. Satyawadi.

#### MINOR IRRIGATION SCHEMES

**\*1390. Dr. Satyawadi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a list of Minor Irrigation Schemes for the State of the Punjab for which a sum of Rs. 1,20,27,120/- has been sanctioned for 1954-55 by the Central Government?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** A list is placed on the