

of which about forty-three were taken to the court and punished. May I know if out of the hundred and odd cases there are still cases pending in the Department for punishment?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Yes, Sir. All I have stated in this answer was that action was initiated against 154 employees. Some have been dealt with, others are being dealt with.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether it is a fact that complaints which are entered in the complaints book, even by Members of Parliament regarding corruption etc., are not attended to and no action is taken on them?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I beg to re-  
fute that point....

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** It is a fact.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member says it is a fact and the Parliamentary Secretary says "No" Let us hear him.

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I beg to submit that any complaint that is entered in the complaint book is looked into very thoroughly, and the entries made by Members of Parliament and other honourable gentlemen are attended to with all due care.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Evidently hon. Members are referring to complaints made independently of the complaint book.

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Any complaint that is received in the Railway Ministry, either through the complaint book or verbally or in writing, is attended to.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Were there any cases during this period and, if so, how many which were dealt with departmentally where the only punishment given was warning or admonition?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** For the break-up I want notice.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF AIR-CRAFT IN INDIA

\*1560. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether Government have a scheme for the development of light economical air-craft which can be operated at low cost?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** The production of a light economical aircraft is one of the problems engaging the attention of the recently established Directorate of Development and Production (Air) in the Ministry of Defence. The proposal is at the preliminary stage of examination at present.

#### COFFEE LABOUR

\*1561. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of coffee have risen since 1953; and

(b) if so, what has been the increase in the net income of the labourers in coffee plantations on account of rise in coffee prices?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) During 1954 the coffee prices have not shown an upward trend as compared to the price levels in 1953.

(b) The question does not arise.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if the Government takes into account the rise in prices or the decline in prices when they determine the quantum of amenities to these labourers?

**Shri Abid Ali:** So far as the wages are concerned, these are stipulated according to the Minimum Wages Act. With regard to bonus, of course, the prevailing prices are sometimes taken into consideration.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know the range of bonus during the last three years so far as these coffee plantations labourers are concerned?

**Shri Abid Ali:** I would require notice for that.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Is it a fact that the international prices of coffee have risen fairly high?

**Shri Abid Ali:** For that also, I require notice.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** May I know if it is a fact that when the prices rise, wages do not rise, but when prices fall, employment falls? This partnership means that labour always shares the losses and no gains. Is that the policy?

**Shri Abid Ali:** In coffee industry, there has not been such a case.

#### DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

\*1563. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to improve the efficiency of the Delhi Transport Service and the regularity and punctuality of its services?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** Arrangements have been made for the running of 400 buses by the middle of 1955. Two new depots have been constructed and are in operation. A central workshop at Coronation Road is expected to be in operation by the end of this month. All other aspects of operation are being constantly reviewed and tightened up with a view to improving regularity and punctuality.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know the daily average number of break-down during the last three months and whether it is a fact that when there are break-downs no extra buses are sent to take the place of the missing buses?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** It is rather a wide question to be able to give the number of break-downs during the last three months. There are some break-downs. As soon as we come to know of it, we try to replace them depend-

ing on the number of buses that we hold in reserve.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** May I know what steps have been taken or are likely to be taken to improve the efficiency of the drivers?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** Training classes are regularly being held and refresher courses are given to them.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal:** May I know whether it is a fact that the grievances of the employees of the Delhi Transport Service are not being looked into properly so that inefficiency has arisen out of that?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We are going into another very big subject.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** There was a bus service which originated from North Avenue which is a very important place. May I know why it was withdrawn?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Does it relate to efficiency and regularity? Of course, hon. Members are interested in that.

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** Because Members of Parliament are living in North Avenue, he is interested in that. I propose to re-start it.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** The hon. Minister said that the frequency of buses have been increased from 1st December, 1954. May I know the mileage covered before 1st December, 1954?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I do not have the figures with me. I shall supply the figures.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether it is a fact that the time-table of the Delhi Transport Service was recently revised to achieve greater punctuality and more efficiency, but the revised time-table has led to the results that are just the reverse of it?