bhadra Project in Andhra is going on at a slow pace:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir. According to information received from the Government of Andhra much progress has not so far been made with the reclamation work.

(b) The reasons for the slow progress are (i) adequate numbers of tractors and other equipment are not evailable, and (ii) some of the available tractors are not in good working order and are under repairs.

(c) The State Government have placed orders for 15 bulldozers. Two of these have already arrived at the site of operations. The State Government have also sanctioned the establishment of a tractor workshop to attend to the speedy repair of tractors and bulldozers.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*1585. Shri Madhao Reddi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board have laid down any uniform procedure for the selection of senior subordinates to lower Gazetted posts on the Railways; and

(b) if so, whether due weightage is given to seniority in such cases?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Yes.

RECRUITMENT ON THE SOUTHERN RAIL-WAY

*1586. Shri Veeraswamy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a system of direct recruitment has been

introduced to the posts of class I clerks in the Accounts Department of the Southern Railway;

(b) if so, the reason therefor,

(c) whether any memorandum has been received from the clerical staff of the Accounts Department; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No; only 20% of the annual permanent vacancies in the grade Rs. 80-220 of the Accounts Department of all Railways have been thrown open for direct recruitment.

(b) To improve efficiency in Accounts Offices.

(c) Yes.

(d) The representations have been carefully considered and no revision of the orders on the subject was considered necessary.

IRRIGATION SCHEMES IN TRIPURA

*1587. { Shri Dasaratha Deb: Shri Biren Putt:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 729 on the 10th September, 1954, and state the progress in regard to the execution of the various Irrigation Schemes taken up in Tripura?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): An Investigation Division has been recently created for the purpose of formulating major irrigation schemes. They have already undertaken the preliminary survey in this connection. They have also been requested io undertake preliminary survey work in connection with the minor irrigation schemes included in the Five Year Plan for Tripura.

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