

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*1312. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of surplus staff of Pandu region on the North Eastern Railway that has been absorbed and that still remains to be absorbed; and

(b) by what time Government expect that the staff will be completely absorbed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Out of about 660 staff of the ex-Assam Railway rendered surplus at Pandu, on the integration of the ex-Assam Railway into the North Eastern Railway Zone, 400 have been absorbed in the expanded cadres of the North Eastern Railway offices in Calcutta and the balance have been absorbed elsewhere.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*1315. **Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees dismissed from Railway service during 1952—54 on account of their taking part in cultural activities;

(b) whether any Railway employee has been removed from service during the years 1952—54 for actively helping any political organisation; and

(c) if so, how many?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Four.

TRANSPORT STUDY GROUP

*1316. **Shri Ibrahim:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1087 on the 17th September, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the Study Group (Transport Planning) has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are its main recommendations;

(c) which of them have been accepted and implemented so far; and

(d) the total expenditure incurred on this Study Group?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) Rs. 59,800.

CATERING ON RAILWAYS

*1317. **Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to follow the policy of not granting a large number of catering contracts to one contractor; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far to implement this policy?

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

(b) This policy will be followed while granting or renewing contracts in future.

SUGAR FACTORY AT CHITTOOR

*1320. **Shri R. N. Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to establish a sugar factory at Chittoor;

(b) whether any representation for the establishment of a factory has been