

(d) Changes in number are intimated to the subscribers concerned at once. The rest are informed.

- (1) by the subscribers themselves.
- (2) by the enquiry operator when rung up.
- (3) by issue of Directory.

AIR ACCIDENTS

*73. **Shri B. D. Shastri:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

- (a) the total number of air accidents in India during the period from the 1st August to the 31st December, 1954;
- (b) the total number of lives lost in these accidents;
- (c) whether the causes of all the accidents were investigated; and
- (d) if so, how many of these accidents were due to the negligence and carelessness of either pilots or of the ground engineers?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (d). I lay on the Table of the Lok Sabha a statement giving requisite information. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 21.]

SUGAR PRODUCTION

*75. **Shri V. Missir:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total production of white sugar in the country during the period from the 1st April to the 31st December, 1954; and
- (b) how these figures compare with those of the corresponding periods in 1952-53 and 1953-54?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The total quantity of white sugar produced from 1st April to 31st December in each of the years 1952, 1953 and

1954, was as under:—

Year	Production (tons)
1952	5,36,295
1953	4,31,908
1954	3,94,506

NATIONAL WELFARE BOARD FOR SEAFARERS

*79. { **Shri R. N. Singh:**
Shri Radha Raman:

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 338 on the 1st September, 1954 and state:

- (a) whether any decision has since been taken for the setting up of a National Welfare Board for seafarers;
- (b) what will be the main functions of this Board; and
- (c) who will be the members thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The National Maritime Board referred to in my answer to starred question No. 338 has not yet been set up. A National Welfare Board for seafarers to advise the Government of India on matters relating to the welfare of seafarers is, however, being established.

(b) and (c). The functions and composition of the National Welfare Board for seafarers are embodied in a Government resolution, a copy of which is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 22.]

NEW RAILWAY LINES

*80. **Shri Damar:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether Government propose to construct a new Railway line through the Adivasi areas of Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): It is presumed that the hon. Member is referring to the Southern undeveloped portions of Rajasthan and Madhya

Bharat States. Proposals for the construction of Railway lines from Udaipur to Himmatnagar and from Indore to Dohad are being investigated.

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्वेदिक परिषद्

* 59. श्री विभूति मिश्र: क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि:

(क) क्या सरकार अखिल भारतीय चिकित्सा परिषद् की तरह एक अखिल भारतीय आयुर्वेदिक परिषद् भी बनाना चाहती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह कब तक बनाई जाएगी?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (राजकुमारी अमृत कौर): (क) अब तक ऐसा कोई विचार नहीं है।

(ख) उत्पन्न ही नहीं होता।

FACILITIES AT AVADI

*86. Shri Punnoose: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the special Postal, Telegraphic and Telephone facilities provided at Avadi in connection with the annual session of the Indian National Congress; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred on these arrangements?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) (i) Postal—Two post offices were opened and functioned from 12-1-55 to 25-1-55, one at Satyamurthinagar where the open Session was held and the other at Avadi Congress Camp where the All India Congress Committee session took place. These functioned from 1 a.m. to 8 p.m. on all the days of the week affording all normal postal facilities to the public. A Mobile post office was also provided for.

34 letter boxes were planted in the area and they were cleared seven times a day.

There was midnight clearance of letter boxes by despatch riders on motor cycles and mails collected were taken to the Air port Sorting

Office to catch the morning air services.

(ii) Telegraph—A camp Telegraph Office was opened for handling the large volume of press and public traffic all the 24 hours.

(iii) Telephone—A Temporary telephone exchange was opened at Avadi. 123 Telephone Connections were given from it.

(b) Rs. 46,266-12-1.

FENCING FOR RAILWAY TRACK

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

(a) whether it is a fact that fencing of the Railway tracks was removed during the last war;

(b) whether it has since been restored; and

(c) if so, at what place?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, Sir to some extent.

(b) and (c). No, Sir; according to the present policy fencing is to be provided along the railway lines only in suburbs and industrial areas, around the Station yards and in the immediate neighbourhood of important level crossings.

SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION

*95. Shri R. S. Lal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the trains that have been provided with the third class sleeping cars so far; and

(b) the target fixed for this year in regard to the proposal to increase the number of such trains?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 23.]

(b) No target has been fixed. The services are of an experimental nature and the question of their further