

(b) There is a proposal to extend covering over platforms No. 1 and 2 by 196 ft. and No. 3 by 280 ft.

(c) The work has been sanctioned and actual construction would be

(d) Rs. 1,13,000 approximately. taken in hand shortly.

#### SUPER CONSTELLATIONS FROM U.S.A.

\*113. { Shri Sarangadhar Das;  
Shri Amjad Ali;  
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha;  
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury;  
Shri Ibrahim;

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of U.S.A. have withheld the export licence for the delivery of three Super-Constellations which were ordered in 1953;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action has been taken or is being taken to get an early delivery of these planes?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

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

#### COKE PLANT

\*114. Shri V. Missir: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work in Lodna Coke Plant was stopped by the management on the 5th May, 1954;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of workers were illegally discharged; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khan-dubhai Desai): (a) to (d). The No. 2 battery at Lodna Coke Plant was closed on the 5th May, 1954 due to

damages caused to it during the two strikes in November—December 1953 and February—March 1954 rendering about 337 workers unemployed. The matter came up before the Central Government Industrial Tribunal Dhanbad, constituted under the Industrial Disputes Act 1947. The management of the Lodna group of Colliery and their workers entered into an agreement in September 1954, about the method of absorption of the affected workers and the Tribunal gave its Award in terms of the agreement.

#### LABOUR APPELLATE TRIBUNAL

\*116. Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to abolish the Labour Appellate Tribunal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any decision has been taken thereon?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khan-dubhai Desai): (a) Yes.

(b) There is a large volume of public opinion in favour of abolition of the Labour Appellate Tribunal. The workers' organisations particularly have been demanding abolition because of the long time taken for the disposal of appeals and the expenditure and inconvenience caused to them by their participation in the appeals.

(c) No, Sir.

#### PURCHASE OF GLIDERS

\*117. Shri B. D. Shastri: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any order for the purchase of gliders has been recently placed with a firm in the United Kingdom;

(b) if so, whether there is any major difference between the present gliders and those to be imported from the United Kingdom;

(c) what is the total value of the order; and