

(d) whether these gliders are to be given to the existing flying clubs or Government propose to utilise them otherwise?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (d). The Civil Aviation Department has placed orders for the purchase from the United Kingdom of 4 gliders at a total cost of Rs. 60,000, for use at the Departmental Gliding Centre, Poona in imparting training in gliding. These gliders are similar to the ones already in use in India.

QUARTERS FOR RAILWAY STAFF

***118. Shri Damar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned any expenditure on the construction of quarters for employees on the Western Railway in 1954-55; and

(b) if so, the progress of this work so far?

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

(b) The progress of this work was about 40 per cent. at the end of December, 1954.

EMPLOYMENT IN INDIAN MINES

***119. Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether employment in Indian Mines in 1954 showed an increase or decrease as compared to the figures of employment in 1951 and if so, by how much; and

(b) the number of persons employed in 1954 in Coal, Manganese and Mica mines of India?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khan-dubhai Desai): (a) Statistics of employment for the year 1954 are not yet ready. It is, therefore, not possible to give precise information at this stage. The indications, however, are that the employment in mines in 1954 is not significantly below the 1951 level.

(b) The average daily employment in coal mines according to an estimate based on monthly returns is 332, 321. Figures for manganese and mica mines are not yet available.

CANTEENS IN RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

***120. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the number of canteens that have been provided in the workshops of the Northern Railway; and

(b) the names of the places where they have been provided?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 27].

TIBBIA COLLEGE, ALIGARH

***121. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Commission appointed by Government recently visited the Tibbia College, Aligarh; and

(b) if so, the purpose of their visit?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

TELESCOPIC RAILWAY FARES

***122. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 53 on the 16th November, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the examination of the proposal for introducing telescopic scales for passenger fares has since been completed; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision arrived at?

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