

milk per day to meet the requirements of Delhi.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT

*2522. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any International Trade Agreement under which India is bound to import certain specific commodities from the member-countries; and

(b) if so, what are those commodities?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Wheat.

INSPECTION OF POST OFFICES

*2523. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) when it is proposed to introduce the system of second inspections of Post Offices; and

(b) the additional expenditure it would involve in case the posts of Inspector of Post Offices are sanctioned after the introduction of second inspections?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The matter is still under consideration.

(b) Rs. 4,47,581-4-0 per annum.

GOODS TRAFFIC

*2527. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that traffic of goods by public carriers is fast increasing on the Saurashtra side of the Western Railway and the Assam side of the North Eastern Railway despite the cheaper freight rates of the Railways; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shannawaz Khan): (a) There is no indication of any large increase in the transport of goods by road in Saurashtra and in Assam; but there has, however, been a small increase in 1953-54 and 1954-55, in the number of permits issued for public carriers in these States.

(b) Does not arise.

VENDING CONTRACTS

*2528. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the punishment prescribed for the sub-letting of vending contracts on Railways;

(b) whether there is any periodical check against such sub-letting; and

(c) the number of cases reported in the North Eastern Railway during the last two years and the action taken thereon?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shannawaz Khan): (a) Railways have been instructed to be particularly strict in dealing with sub-letting of contracts.

(b) No periodical checks as such are prescribed, but it is a point specially kept in view during normal inspections.

(c) Eleven cases in the financial years 1952-53 and 1953-54. In seven cases which were proved the contracts were terminated. In the remaining four cases the complaints were not substantiated.

WILLINGDON HOSPITAL STAFF

*2529. **Chaudhrī Muhammed Shaffee:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints lodged against doctors and others employed in the Willingdon Hospital, New Delhi, during the years 1953 and 1954