

(c) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken for their prompt clearance?

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

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

#### TELEPHONE EXCHANGE IN LADAKH

**\*301. Shri B. D. Shastri:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to set up a telephone exchange in Ladakh is under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, by what time a decision will be taken in the matter; and

(c) what will be the estimated cost?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Provision of a wireless telephone circuit to Ladakh is under consideration.

(b) and (c). Details of equipment and financial implications have to be finalised yet.

#### TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS FOR RURAL POLICE STATIONS

**\*303. Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to connect every rural Police Station with district headquarters by telephone; and

(b) if so, within what period?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

#### FIBRE EXPERT

**\*304. Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Fibre Expert from U.K. is visiting the country in February, 1955;

(b) if so, the main purpose of his visit to this country; and

(c) whether he is coming here at the invitation of Government or at the invitation of some private concern?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Yes. The Chief of the Fibres Section of the Economics Division of the Food and Agriculture Organisation, of the United Nations visited this country in January, 1955.

(b) Collection of data on fibres for a monograph.

(c) He visited this country at his own instance.

#### COCONUT CULTIVATION IN LACCADIVES

**\*307. Shri Punnoose:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government are financing the scheme of the Madras Government for coconut cultivation in the Laccadives;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) the total estimated expenditure thereon; and

(d) the share of the Central Government in the expenditure?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

#### NATIONAL HARBOUR BOARD

**\*308. Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Harbour Board has recently been reconstituted;

(b) if so, what are the main changes;

(c) whether any representatives of workers have also been included in the Board;

(d) if so, their names; and

(e) how they were selected?