PROMOTION OF ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS

*1679. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the normal period after which an Assistant Station Master is promoted as a Station Master?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The period varies from Railway to Railway from 6 to 17 years depending on various factors such as number of stations, age group of existing incumbents, etc.

HEALTH SERVICES

*1681. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to ensure a uniform development of the health services in the country; and
- (b) how far the Central Health Council has succeeded in achieving this object?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

PILOTS

*1683. Dr. N. B. Khare: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an article published in the 'Nagpur Times' dated the 21st February, 1955 under the caption "playing with lives" regarding indiscipline amongst Airlines Staff; and
- (b) if so, whether any action has been taken to prevent such indiscipline on the part of responsible officers like Pilots which might lead to serious air disasters?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir. (b) Disciplinary action has been taken by both the Indian Air Lines Corporation and the Director General of Civil Aviation against the Commander of the aircraft. The Corporation has forfeited 50 per cent. of his efficiency bonus for the month of February 1955 (amount involved Rs. 100). The Director General of Civil Aviation suspended the licence of the Commander for one week.

AGARTALA LOCAL BODY

*1684. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Municipality of Agartala, Tripura, is passing through acute financial crisis at present;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

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

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

GWALIOR ENGINEERING WORKS

*1685. Shri Suriya Prashad: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to purchase the "Gwalior Engineering Works" from the Madhya Bharat Government for the use of the Railways?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): A proposal is under consideration.

JANATA SERVICE-BOMBAY-RAJKOT

*1687. Dr. J. N. Parekh: Will the Minister of Radiways be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to run a Janata train from Bombay to Rajkot?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): No. Sir.

BONUS TO BIKANER BANK EMPLOYEES

- *1688. Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received any representation from the