

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अल्लोशन) : (क) मांगी गयी सूचना का विवरण 'क' सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है [द्विचित्रे परिशिष्ट ४, अनुबन्ध सं० ७]

(ख) जी हां।

(ग) मांगी गई सूचना का विवरण 'ख' सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है [द्विचित्रे परिशिष्ट ४, अनुबन्ध सं० ७]

Safety Device

*507. **Shri Gidwani**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a device to lock rails more tightly to wooden sleepers to prevent accidents has been invented by a French dentist; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to utilize the same device in India?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b) The news item published in the press has come to the notice of the Government and particulars of the device are being obtained.

C.T.O.

*515. **Shri K.G. Deshmukh**: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently sanctioned a reduction in the rates of the operations conducted by the Central Tractor Organisation; and

(b) if so, what are the revised rates?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) The rates were reduced from Rs. 55/- per acre/hour to Rs. 40/- per acre/hour for 1954-55 season, provided the State Governments agreed to offer a specified minimum area for reclamation.

Cocoa nut and Tapioca

*517. **Shri A.K. Gopalan**: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he had a discussion with the Travancore-Cochin Government regarding the measures to be adopted for arresting the fall in the price of cocoonut and tapioca during his last tour of the State; and

(b) if so, the decisions arrived at?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). Yes. A general talk was held with the Chief Minister and the Food Minister of Travancore-Cochin Government about Tapioca but no decisions were arrived at. There was no talk about the prices of cocoonuts.

Railway Technical Staff

*518 { **Shri Subodh Hasda**:
Shri P.N. Rajabhoj :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board has imposed a ban on the technical staff working on the Indian Railways applying for jobs outside the Railways; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Yes, except purely temporary staff.

(b) Due to overall shortage of experienced and trained technical staff on the Railways and particularly in the context of the development plans of the Railways, it is necessary to retain the available technical man power.

Radio Licences

*524. **Shri Jethalal Joshi**: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences for radio sets issued during the year 1954-55; and

(b) the number of unlicensed receiving sets detected during the same period?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) 19,46,978.

(b) 19,253.

Steamer Service

*525. **Pandit N. T'waraj**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1506 on the 25th March, 1955 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large amount is lost due to restriction on booking passengers from ghat to ghat; and

(b) if so, the difficulty in restoring ghat to ghat passenger booking?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a), As bank to bank booking of traffic has at no time been permitted in the past between Palazghat on the one side and Digha and Mahendraghat on the other, the question of 'loss' due to traffic being not booked from ghat to ghat does not arise.