

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b) No, Sir.
(c) Does not arise.

Lack of Transport Facilities

*1882. **Shri L. N. Mishra :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Departments of Government have complained that their development works have been held up for want of necessary transport facilities from Railways; and

(b) if so, the names of the Departments that have made such complaints and the works that are stated to have suffered ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) While there have been some complaints from time to time from some State Governments regarding inadequacy of rail transport to meet their requirements fully and currently, no specific complaints as to the hold-up of development works for lack of rail transport as such, appears to have been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Distribution of Foodstuffs

*1885. **Shri Kelappan :** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Agencies in India approved for receiving relief supplies of foodstuffs coming under the Indo-U.S. Agreement, for free distribution to the poor and the needy;

(b) the Agencies through which the distribution is made in the State of Madras especially in the Malabar District; and

(c) the terms of the Agreement ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jaiu) : (a) A list of the Agencies approved by the Government of India for receiving relief supplies, including foodstuffs coming under the Indo-US Agreement dated 9th July, 1951 is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 5]

(b) The Agencies, mentioned in reply to part (a), arrange the distribution of gift parcels through various distributors throughout the country. No agencies have been specified for distribution in the State of Madras and the District of Malabar.

(c) The Agreement mainly provides for :

(i) Shipment of gift materials from U.S.A. by recognised sending agencies, the freight and other incidental charges upto the port of entry in India being paid by the U.S.A. Government; and

(ii) Customs-free entry into India, the cost of clearance from the port area and their despatch to destinations indicated by the recognised receiving agencies in India being borne by the Government of India. The Gifts are required to be distributed by the recognised receiving agencies free of cost among the poor and needy without distinction of race, caste or creed.

Railway Employees

*1886. { **Shri V. Missir;**
Shri R. N. Singh;

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ex-Cash Contractor of the E.P. Railway allowed inflated rates of pay to his employees while he was under notice of termination of his contract in 1948;

(b) whether these inflated rates were recognised for the purpose of fixation of pay of the staff, when this work was taken over by Government;

(c) whether Government took steps to ascertain how far the rates had been inflated by the ex-Cash Contractor; and

(d) if so, the nature of the steps taken ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). The Railway had detected from the records of the contractor that one increment not due had been given on 1-10-1948 to 10 of the contractor's staff. In these cases, the extra increment was excluded in fixing pay.

Ellora and Ajanta Caves

*1887. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav :** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether any facilities are given to the tourist visiting Ellora and Ajanta Caves;

(b) if so the nature thereof;