

(c) and (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 51].

Iron Ore Export

*2063. **Shri Deogram** : Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1496 on the 6th September, 1955 and state :

(a) the monthly average in percentage of direct shipment of iron ores from Kidderpore Docks during the period from January to June, 1955.

(b) how this average compares with the direct shipment in the corresponding months of the years 1952-53 and 1954 ;

(c) the reasons for considerable fall if any, during January to June, 1955 ; and

(d) the reasons for improvement in August, 1955 ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) The monthly average of direct shipment of ores of all kinds during the period January to June 1955 was 8.9 per cent. Separate figures in respect of iron ore are not available.

(b) About 9.7 per cent less as compared with the corresponding period of 1954. Figures for 1952 and 1953 are not available.

(c) and (d). Government are not aware of any special reasons for such fluctuations.

Railway Signals

*2065. **Shri U. M. Trivedi** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the standard semaphore signals are being replaced on the Western Railway by a new type of signals ;

(b) if so, the names of the Stations where the new type of signals have been installed ; and

(c) the expenditure incurred there on ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) Yes Sir on some Sections.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. (See Appendix X, annexure No. 52).

(c) Rs. 7,58,000.

Teleprinters

*2071. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee** : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently permitted Share and

Bullion brokers to import and instal six teleprinters for transmission of messages between Bombay and Calcutta ;

(b) if so, the circumstances under which they have been permitted ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the use of these teleprinters will bring about short-fall in Trunk telephone revenue ; and

(d) if so, to what extent ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) The Director-General, Posts & Telegraphs is not aware of import of Teleprinters. The Department has however approved leasing out teleprinter circuits to certain parties.

(b) A reference may be made to the statement of Minister for Communications made in the Lok Sabha on 23-12-54, in connection with the notice by Sardar Amar Singh Saigal.

(c) While there may be a slight fall to the extent that these parties put through a less number of trunk calls, this will be made good by the rental for teleprinter circuits

(d) Does not arise.

Goods Traffic

*2078. **Shri K. P. Tripathi** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that goods take normally about a month to reach Amingaon from Tezpur and back by train, a distance of only 80 miles ;

(b) if so, the reason therefor ; and

(c) the steps if any, taken in the matter ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) The distance between Amingaon and Tezpur is 116 miles, not 80 miles as stated in the Question. The normal overall time taken in transit between Amingaon and Tezpur is only three to four days for Wagon-loads and a day in addition, for 'small' consignments

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Train Accident

*2085. **Shri M. L. Agrawal** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the causes of the collision of the two suburban electric trains at Dock Yard Road Station, Bombay on the 9th September, 1955 ; and

(b) whether any inquiry has been instituted into this accident ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) and (b) The Government Inspector of Railways, Bombay, is conducting his statutory enquiry into the collision, the cause of which will be known on receipt of his Report.

Air Accident in Nepal

***2086. Shri Kamath :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in July, 1955 there was an accident to an I. A. C. plane at Bhairava in Nepal ;

(b) if so, the casualties and other details of the accident ; and

(c) whether an enquiry has been instituted into the causes of the accident ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) to (c). I lay a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha giving the requisite information. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 53.]

डाक घर तार घर के भवन

***2087. श्री कृष्णाचार्य जोशी :** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हैदराबाद राज्य में कितने डाक-घर सरकारी भवनों में हैं और कितने किराये पर लिये गये भवनों में हैं ; और

(ख) किराये पर प्रतिवर्ष कितनी राशि व्यय की जाती है ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) 302 Post Offices are located in buildings owned by the Department and 107 Post Offices are located in rented buildings.

(b) A sum of Rs. 35,546/9/- is paid annually as rent for the Post Offices located in rented buildings.

Rolling Stock

***2088. Shri Raghunath Singh :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that orders have been placed for the supply of Rolling Stocks with some firms in France ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix, X annexure No. 54].

Katihar-Sonepur Rail Line

***2089. Shri L. N. Mishra :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal for doubling the track from Katihar to Sonepur on North Eastern Railway is under the consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, when this proposal is expected to materialise ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) No. Sir Doubling of track between Sonepur and Hajipur only is under consideration at present.

(b) A decision in regard to doubling of the Sonepur-Hajipur portion is expected to be taken early next year.

Bridge over Bhorali River

***2090. Shri K. P. Tripathi :** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1147 on the 17th March, 1955 and state :

(a) whether the site of the bridge to be constructed on the Bhorali river in Assam is under the consideration of the Central Government ; and

(b) if so, when a decision is likely to be taken ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) and (b). The question of site for the bridge will be considered after completion of the survey work which is being carried out by the State Government.

Theft of Gold Bars

1072. Shri K. P. Sinha : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 204 on the 10th March, 1955 and state :

(a) whether the investigation into the theft of gold bars has since been completed ; and

(b) if so, results thereof ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) No; not yet.

(b) So far 7 persons have been arrested and gold valued, Rs. 60,000 has been recovered.