

policy to work in friendly way and get the countries' consent, instead of merely having the advantage of making a speech without any result.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**Jute Production**

**\*2195. Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants sanctioned so far to the various States for stepping up jute production in the country during the year 1955-56; and

(b) the programme to be followed in utilising these funds?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) The grants sanctioned for Jute Development Work during 1955-56 are as under:

	Rs.
West Bengal . . . . .	5,11,900
Assam . . . . .	1,30,000
Bihar . . . . .	2,19,000
Orissa . . . . .	1,73,800
Uttar Pradesh . . . . .	2,13,200

(b) The jute development programme for 1955-56 includes (i) excavation of new retting tanks and renovation of old tanks, (ii) Plant Protection measures, (iii) Demonstrations and (iv) Subsidised distribution of jute seeds.

**Definition of "Workman"**

**\*2203. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the categories of employees excluded from the scope of the term "workman" as defined in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, according to the decisions given from time to time by the Industrial and other courts; and

(b) whether Government propose to amend the definition of the term "workman" in the light of those decisions?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai):** (a) The term "workman" as defined in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 has been generally interpreted as excluding supervisory and technical personnel, i.e. those not doing manual or clerical work, skilled or unskilled.

(b) The definition of the term is proposed to be widened so as to include all supervisory personnel drawing wages of Rs. 500/- or less per month and all technical personnel *vide* clause 3 (f) of the Industrial Disputes (Amendment and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 1955, which has already been introduced in the House.

**Claims**

**\*2207. Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to the starred question No. 812 on the 17th August, 1955 and state the numbers of claims registered and the amount paid during the period from the 1st April to the 31st July, 1955 on the North Eastern Railway?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** Number of claims registered on account of all causes on the North-Eastern Railway was 12,830 during the period 1st April to 31st July 1955 and the amount paid was Rs. 16,38,723.

**Railway Earnings**

**\*2208. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Railway earnings for the period from April to July, 1955 and the figures for the corresponding period during 1954-55; and

(b) the reasons for the increase or decrease in the earnings during the current financial year, during these months?

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

(a) April to July, 1955 . . . . . 102 crores.  
 April to July, 1954 . . . . . 93 crores.

(b) Increase of 9 crores is under Goods earnings (6) crores Passenger earnings (2) crores and other coaching earnings (1) crore and is attributable partly to revision of rates of fares and freights from 1/4/1955 and partly to increase in traffic.

**Recruitment of Dock Workers**

**\*2213. Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to reply given o starred question No. 1396 on the 20th December, 1954 and state:

(a) whether enquiries in regard to the allegations of irregularities committed by Shri A. Talib in the matter of recruitment of Dock workers have been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai):** (a) The enquiry is still in progress.

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