

TELCO

*2214. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount advanced to the Tata Locomotive Company till now; and

(b) the basis on which the money has been advanced?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The highest figures of advances or on account of payments made to Telco against the order placed on them by the Government for locomotives stood at Rs. 58 lakhs (approximate) but this account was completely cleared by the end of March, 1955 by adjustment against cost of work done or of supplies made.

(b) The advance payment was made on the basis of reimbursing Telco for certain advance payments they had to make under their sub-contract with a German firm supplying certain materials.

New Building for Railway Board

*2215. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to construct a separate building for the Railway Board in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when the work will commence;

(d) when it will be completed; and

(e) its capacity when it is ready?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a). No Sir. The proposal is still under consideration.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Railway Zone for Assam

*2220. **Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the demand in Assam for a separate Railway zone for Assam; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

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

(b) It is not proposed to create a separate Railway Zone for Assam.

Newton-Chickli Colliery Disaster

*2223. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1366 on the 2nd September, 1955 and state:

(a) whether any action has been taken against the Manager Newton-Chickli Colliery on the finding of the Court of Enquiry; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) and (b). Steps are being taken to institute proceedings against the Manager, Newton Chickli Colliery.

National Highway No. 8

*2224. **Shri Bheekha Bhal:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress of work on the National Highway No. 8 is not satisfactory on the Kherwara-Bichhiwara section; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The work of construction of the Kherwara-Bichhiwara section is progressing satisfactorily.

(b) Does not arise.

छप्परा रेलवे स्टेशन

*२२३१. **श्री एम० एन० सिंह :** क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के छप्परा स्टेशन के यार्ड की रेल पटरियां तथा स्लीपर पुराने तथा घिसे हुये हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनको बदलने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के सभासचिव (श्री शाहनवाज़ खां): (क) जी हां, रेल की पटरियां और स्लीपर काफी पुराने हैं।

(ख) जब जरूरत होगी तो इन्हें बदल दिया जायेगा।