

**Co-operative Farming**

\*2236. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposals from the Government of Punjab for the development of co-operative farming; and

(b) if so, whether any amount has been allotted for this purpose?

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

(b) Not yet; certain information has been called for from the State Government and the necessary allotment of funds will be made thereafter.

**Air Accidents**

\*2237. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Courts of Enquiry appointed by Government to investigate into the causes that led to the accidents to two Dakotas of the Indian Air-lines Corporations near Gauhati and Nagpur on the 25th January, and the 2nd February, 1955 respectively, have completed their reports; and

(b) if so, their findings?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). Summaries of the reports of the Courts of Enquiry in both the cases have been released to the Press. According to the Court (i) the Dakota aircraft VT-COZ crashed near Gauhati airport on the 25th January, 1955 in the course of a premature descent, during the final approach, as a result of hitting arecanut trees which were obscured from view by fog in the area and (ii) Dakota aircraft VT-CVB crashed at the Nagpur airport on the 2nd February, 1955 as a result of slipping into the ground in the course of a steep turn to port executed at night at a low altitude.

Copies of the reports are also available in the Parliament Library.

**Taxation Enquiry Commission**

\*2238. { **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**  
**Shri P. C. Bose:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have issued any directions to State Governments in respect of the Taxation Enquiry Commission's recommendation, to make the local bodies and local authorities financially sound; and

(b) if so, the nature of the direction given?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) and (b). The Central Council of Local Self-Government have requested the State Governments to forward their views, comments and suggestions on the various recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission at an early date in order to enable the Executive Committee of the Council to consider and report thereon.

**Tourist Traffic**

\*2239. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to determine the preferences of foreign tourists in respect of various goods and services available to them in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that a modern tourist reception centre is proposed to be constructed in Srinagar; and

(c) if so, what will be its cost of construction and who will bear the cost?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) The Tourist Reception Centre is being constructed by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. Its estimated cost is Rs. 7.39 lakhs. The extent to which the Central Government will contribute towards its cost has not yet been finally settled.

**Rest Homes for Railway Staff**

\*2240. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to para 68 of his speech on the Railway Budget for 1955-56 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been arrived at regarding the opening of rest homes for the staff at suitable hill stations or seaside resorts for spending their holidays inexpensively; and

(b) if so, the sites selected?

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

(b) Kurseong, Ranchi, Mussoorie, Pallavaram and Barog so far.

### Railway Protection Police

\*2241. **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:

(a) the present strength of Government Railway Police, Railway Protection Police and Watch and Ward Staff, respectively, serving on the North Eastern Railway and since when the Railway Protection Police was introduced;

(b) whether the Railway Protection Police and the Watch and Ward officials have been given powers to take action against those found guilty of thefts of railway properties or they are only authorised to apprehend delinquents and forward them to Government Railway Police for prosecution; and

(c) the reasons for the introduction of Government Protection Police and Watch and Ward Staff in addition to government Railway Police and whether their introduction has helped in lessening the numbers of thefts?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan)**: (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 23].

### Training of Labour Officers

\*2242. **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha**: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons trained so far as Labour Officers in the United Kingdom; and

(b) whether their services are being utilised?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai)**: (a) Ninety-four.

(b) The Officers trained were already in the employ of the sponsoring authorities and they rejoined their duties on return from the United Kingdom. Information as to how these trainees are being utilised now by State Governments and private employers is not available. Regarding those who were sent by the Central Government, the trainees are generally speaking, utilised on work connected with what they were trained for.

### Leprosy

\*2243. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury**: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned so far to the Leprosy Centres at Jhangram in Midnapur District and at Bankora in West

Bengal for meeting their initial and recurring expenses; and

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite of the repeated appeals of the people of the locality, the Leprosy Colony at Jhangram has not been segregated to a safe distance?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar)**: (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

### Delhi Road Transport Authority

\*2244. **Shri Radha Raman**: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Road Transport Authority proposes to increase the frequency of bus services on seventeen commercial and paying routes in the city and suburbs;

(b) if so, the total number of buses which will be added to the fleet for the said purpose; and

(c) by what time these additional buses will be acquired and put on roads?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan)**: (a) Yes, Sir. on 21 routes.

(b) and (c). 140 new buses. Out of these, 99 new buses have already been added to the fleet upto 31st August 1955 and it is expected that the remaining 41 buses will be added to the fleet by the end of October, 1955.

### Mahanadi Bridge

\*2245. **Shri Jangde**: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madhya Pradesh Government have referred to the Central Government for technical advice a proposal for the construction of a bridge over Mahanadi near Chandrapur on the border of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa;

(b) if so, the nature of the advice given; and

(c) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government have asked for any financial help?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan)**: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.