

**Training of Commercial Pilots**

\*2422. **Shri H.N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government since 1951, year-wise, for the training of commercial pilots;

(b) the number of qualified commercial pilots in India at present; and

(c) the number of such pilots who are unemployed at present?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) I lay on the Table of the Lok Sabha a statement giving the required information [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 15].

(b) 524 on the 1st September, 1955.

(c) No pilot with Dakota endorsement on his commercial licence is at present unemployed. There are however 50 pilots without Dakota endorsements on their licences who are not employed. 14 of these are at present undergoing training for Dakota endorsement.

**Freight Rates**

\*2432. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the shipping line operating between Australia and India has decided to increase the present freight rates by 10 % from the 1st October, 1955?

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

*Vanaspati*

\*2434. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Technological Laboratory, Mysore was asked to conduct experiments for discovering a suitable colour for Vanaspati;

(b) whether the research in that direction has been stopped suddenly; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) No. The Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore has not been asked by Government. It has however taken up the work on the colourisation of vanaspati as a part of its regular programme.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**Mahananda Bridges**

\*2435. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the statement laid on the Table of the House in reply to starred question No. 1047 on the 10th December, 1954 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Bihar have submitted the details of the bridges to be constructed over the Mahananda River for sanction; and

(b) if so, whether the sanction has been accorded for their construction?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). Plans and estimate for the bridge over the Mahananda river at Sonapurhat have been received and are under scrutiny. The work is expected to be sanctioned shortly. Plans and estimates for the bridge at Dingrighat, based on the design suggested by the Transport Ministry, are awaited from the Bihar Government.

**Railway Booking**

\*2436. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at Delhi Railway Station the booking of goods is not available even for months together;

(b) whether it is also a fact that thousands of maunds of goods are brought from Uttar Pradesh to Delhi by Road Transport and then booked from Delhi, thus causing undue hardship to the traders of Delhi; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative the reasons therefor?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) With the exception of booking to the South, Saurashtra area and Assam Rail Link, there is no difficulty in booking to other areas.

(b) We have no information of any appreciable movement of traffic from U.P. to Delhi by road for further transport by rail.

(c) The delays occurring in booking to the areas mentioned under item (a), are due to limited capacity for movement, as against heavy registrations offering and the consequent need to regulate movements by quotas.