

RURAL POST OFFICES

482. **Shri Jasani:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many and in what States the Rural Post Offices in the villages or group of villages with the population of two thousand and above were opened during 1949-50, 1950-51, and 1951-52;

(b) the total expenditure (year-wise) incurred by Postal Department to run these post offices; and

(c) the net loss or profit sustained or gained on the working of these post offices during this period?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement containing the required information is attached. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 45.]

(b) *Expenditure:*

1949-50—Rs. 8,00,395.

1950-51—Rs. 22,42,052.

1951-52—Rs. 38,85,472.

(c) *Loss:*

1949-50—Rs. 2,89,997.

1950-51—Rs. 9,14,047.

1951-52—Rs. 11,15,512.

KALIGHAT-FALTA RAILWAY

483. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the terms of license of the running of Kalighat-Falta Railway;

(b) whether any subsidy is paid to such Railways; and

(c) if so, on what terms?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) The main provisions of the contract for the construction and working of the Kalighat-Falta Railway are as follows:

(i) Land is provided by Government free of cost to the Company.

(ii) The Rates and Fares charged on this Railway are such as are sanctioned by Government.

(iii) When the net receipts of the Company in any year exceed 5 per cent, on the paid up share capital, the excess is divisible in equal proportion between Government and the Com-

pany but when in any year the net receipts do not exceed 5 per cent, on the paid up share capital the whole of the net earnings belong to the Company. If, however, the net receipts are not sufficient to pay interest at the rate of 3½ per cent, per annum on the paid up share capital, Government pays to the Company a sum which together with the net receipts will make up an amount equal to 3½ per cent.

(iv) Government can take over the Railway either on certain specified dates or on fulfilment of certain conditions as laid down in the contract.

(b) and (c). Yes. In accordance with the terms already stated.

TELEPHONE LINE TO RAYAGADA

484. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to extend the trunk telephone line to Rayagada, a town in the district of Kosupat (Orissa); and

(b) if so, when?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) During 1953-54 if the project proves to be remunerative.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

485. **Shri Jasani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many Consumers Co-operative Societies there are of Railway Employees and at what places;

(b) the total membership and subscribed capital; and

(c) the total turnover of business done by these Societies during 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) There are 78 Co-operative Societies on the Railways in the following station:

Matunga, Khargpur (3), Adra, Chakardharpur, Nainpur, Titilagarh, Kantabanji, Waltair, Vizagapatam, Kurda Road, Cuttack, Bilaspur, Tamsar Road, Gondia, Itwari, Nagpur, Chitpur, Naihati, Kanchrapara, Lil-loah, Jamalpur (2), Dinapur, Moghalsara, Ondal, Asansol, Dhanbad, Gomoh, Delhi, Kalka, Jullundur Cantt., Allahabad, Harthala, Rosa, Bikaner, Lucknow, Pandu, Lumding, Badarpur,