

sufficient amount of money required for payment of money orders is not made available in time with the result that money orders remain unpaid for a week or a fortnight causing much inconvenience to the public; and

(c) what are the materials for want of which the work of rural post offices is not carried on smoothly and efficiently?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) No serious difficulties experienced in the working of the extra-departmental post offices have been brought to the notice of the Department by the extra-departmental postmasters.

(b) Generally, sufficient funds are always made available for payment of money orders received at extra-departmental post offices. In the case of such offices situated in the interior and far away from the sub treasury stations, however, delay does sometimes occur in payment of money orders when the amount required to be disbursed is in excess of the funds available at the time. Money Orders are then held up till such time as funds arrive. The position about the availability of funds at the various offices is carefully watched.

(c) Does not arise.

#### RAILWAY SCHOOLS

**543. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many Railway Schools are there on the Indian Railways;

(b) how many of them are Anglo-Indian and how many are Indian; and

(c) in cases where the existing Railway Schools cannot absorb all the children of all the Railway employees there, whether the Railways meet a part of the cost of education of children sent to an out-station?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) 144.

(b) 64 Anglo-Indian Schools and 80 Indian Schools.

(c) No, unless the School is not one of the requisite standard as explained in the rules in the State Railway Establishment Code Vol. I.

**कोसा (दसर) और लाख विषयक अनुसंधान**

**५४४. श्री जांगदे:** क्या लाख तथा कृषि

मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि कोसा

और लाख की उपज बढ़ाने के लिये सरकार ने क्या प्रयोग या अनुसंधान किये हैं और उस के परिणाम क्या हुए हैं ?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 27.]

#### डाक घर

**५४५. सेठ गोविन्द वास :** क्या संवरण

मंत्री १९५१-५२ में बन्द किये गये डाक घरों की संख्या बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे ?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (i) Number of rural post offices closed. . . . . 18

(ii) Number of urban post offices closed . . . . . 14

#### PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS

**546. Shri Dhusiya:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the estimated additional target of production of foodgrains in 1951-52 and its shortfall?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** 14 lakh tons. Actual achievement is not yet known since the year 1951-52 ended only in June, 1952.

#### SLEEPERS (PURCHASE)

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

(a) the quantity of sleepers purchased by the Railway Department during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52;

(b) the price paid yearwise for these purchases; and

(c) the policy usually followed by Government for purchasing sleepers?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) The required information in respect of the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 is contained in paragraphs 95 and 93 respectively of Volume I of the Report by the Railway Board on Indian Railways for these years. The figures for 1951-52 are under compilation and will be incorporated in the Report for 1951-52.

(b) This information in respect of the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 is contained in Appendix A, Volume II of the Report by the Railway Board on Indian Railways for these years. The figures in respect of the year 1951-