

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 outstation?

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-

52 are under compilation and will be incorporated in the Report for that year.

(c) Sleepers are of two kinds—

- (i) Wooden sleepers; and
(ii) Metal sleepers, which may be of—

- (1) cast iron; or
(2) steel.

For procurement of wooden sleepers, there are three Railway purchase organisations called Sleeper Groups. These Groups arrange for requirements of railways in their zone partly through the State Forest Departments and partly through calling open tenders.

Arrangements for the supply of cast iron sleepers are made by the Railway Board who enter into annual agreements with the old established firm or firms which manufacture such sleepers, either by negotiation or by calling tenders. A number of Cast Iron sleepers are also manufactured in Railway Workshops.

For steel sleepers, the Railways place their orders on the Director General, Supply and Disposals (Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply), who places orders on the manufacturing firms after calling for tenders.

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE,
ORISSA

548. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government Medical College in Orissa State has been recognised by the Indian Medical Council;

(b) if so, when;

(c) if not, why not; and

(d) whether the degrees of the Utkal University (Orissa) in Medicine are recognized for recruitment to posts under the Central Government?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Indian Medical Council accords recognition to any Medical qualification only after it is satisfied regarding the standards of the qualification. The reports of the Inspectors deputed by the Medical Council on the facilities that obtain at the College and the professional examinations which are conducted by the Utkal University, together with the observations of the Medical Council of India thereon, are pending with the University for their

remarks. Until these remarks are received from the University, the Medical Council of India will not be in a position to take a decision in the matter.

(d) As the medical degrees granted by the Utkal University have not yet been recognised under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933, the holders thereof are ineligible for recruitment to Class I and Class II posts under the Central Government.

T.B. RAILWAY AUTHORITIES

549. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of compensation paid or to be paid to the former T. B. Railway Authorities of Assam which has since been integrated with the N. E. Railways; and

(b) the number of employees engaged in that (T. B.) Railway, and whether all of the employees will be retained after complete integration?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) The Tezpur Balipara Railway is to be taken over with effect from 1st September 1952 and the amount of purchase price payable is still under negotiation with the Company.

(b) The total number of employees engaged in the Tezpur Balipara Railway is 260. All the existing staff will be retained after integration provided they are suitable and qualified for railway service and are willing to continue in service.

RAILWAY SALOONS

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

(a) what is the number of Saloons in the Assam part of the North Eastern Railway; and

(b) how far these are surplus to requirements of the Assam part of the said Railway?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) On the Pandu Region of the North Eastern Railway there are twenty-three Inspection carriages which include seven bogies and sixteen six or four-wheeled carriages.

(b) This question will be examined after the regrouping scheme in the Pandu Region has been fully implemented.