

**Wheat Bran for Defence**

\*545. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tenders are invited for the supply of wheat bran to the Defence Department and whether the notices for such tenders are properly notified;

(b) the last occasion when such notices were issued and the time given for submission of tenders; and

(c) whether these tenders are open to all countries or confined to our own country?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food (Shri A. M. Thomas):** (a) Yes.

(b) (i) Notice was issued on 30th March, 1962 for publication in the *Indian Trade Journal, Calcutta* for publication on 7th April, 1962.

(ii) Notice issued to known suppliers on 31st March, 1962.

(iii) The last date for submission of tenders was 21st April, 1962 (4 P.M.).

(c) Confined to our own country.

**Indian Labourers Returning Home**

\*546. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to a news item of Mail, Madras of 7th April, 1962 about the ordeal of Indian labourers and others returning to the country after years of toil in Malaya and Singapore; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to mitigate the sufferings and losses these people are put to?

**The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I annexure No. 97].

**Pilgrim Tax in Madurai District**

773. **Shri Malaichami:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the levy of pilgrim tax by the Palani Municipality in Madurai District is pending sanction with the Government of India; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands at present?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under reference with the Government of Madras regarding initiation of similar action to impose a parallel tax on passengers making use of road transport.

**Bina Railway Training Institute**

774. **Shri J. P. Jyotishi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) for how long the Bina Railway Training Institute had been functioning;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Institute had been working well for more than a decade and training people from the areas all around; and

(c) whether Government will reconsider the decision of closing it up and shifting it to a more congested place?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):**

(a) Since 1945.

(b) Yes.

(c) It has been decided to set up a Zonal Training School at Bhusaval with which the Bina School will be amalgamated. The reasons for this decision are that the School authorities can take advantage of the following facilities at Bhusaval—a major locomotive shed, a large traffic yard, hump shunting, major and important cabins, intricate interlocking and track layouts, Divisional control office etc.