

Gram Sabhas

809. Shri D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered study team is proposed to be set up to suggest steps to enable Gram Sabhas to act as sovereign bodies at the village level;

(b) whether blue print for the same has been finalised; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) to (c). A proposal to set up a Study Team to suggest steps to make the Gram Sabha more effective at the village level is in final stages.

Land Development in Delhi

810. Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the difficulty in procuring small pipes has considerably retarded development of agriculture and urban land in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what steps Government contemplate to ward off this difficulty?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

General Strike by Railway Employees

811. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of some of the employees who were dismissed, removed or discharged for participating in 1960 strike are still under consideration;

(b) the number of such employees;

(c) when a final decision is likely to be taken; and

(d) the number of employees dismissed as a result of participation in the general strike?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One—a mercy petition preferred to the General Manager.

Two—employees were dismissed following lower court conviction. Case under review on acquittal orders passed by Appellate Court.

One—Removed from service by the General Manager and appeal preferred to the Railway Board is under consideration.

Seven—employees preferred revision petitions to the General Manager which have been or are being referred to the Railway Rates Tribunal.

(c) These cases are under active consideration and a decision will be taken as early as possible.

(d) 13 as on 28th February, 1962.

Sholayar Project in Kerala

812. { **Shri Warior:**
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign exchange requested for by the Kerala State Government for the completion of the Sholayar Project within Kerala has been sanctioned; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim):

(a) and (b). Release of foreign exchange amounting to Rs. 48,51,982 for the import of generating units, butterfly valves, radial gates, discharge regulators, cableways, intake gates and hoists and emergency gates and hoists has already been sanctioned for the Sholayar Project in Kerala. Further proposals for the release of foreign exchange amounting to