

Indian Red Cross Society on the 17th August, 1962.

(b) The donation is being utilised towards providing relief supplies for flood sufferers in Assam, Bihar and U.P.

P. & T. Buildings

2348. **Shri Yajnik:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any contracts for constructing any buildings for Post and Telegraph offices in the current year;

(b) whether Government have also given any contracts for constructing quarters for the employees of the P. & T. Department during the current year; and

(c) if so, the estimated value of these contracts, separately?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Rs. 33,18,112 for Office buildings and Rs. 59,88,198 for staff quarters in the current financial year.

Concrete Sleepers

2349. { **Shri Himmatsinhji:**
Shrimati Gayatri Devi:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the difference in the cost of concrete sleepers and those used at present?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): A statement indicating the cost of various kinds of sleepers used at present and that of concrete sleepers is placed on the table of the House.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE APPROXIMATE AVERAGE COST OF VARIOUS KIND OF SLEEPERS

Category	Approximate cost inclusive of fittings	Approximate life in years
I. Steel	B.G. Rs. 44.00 M.G. Rs. 30.00	35 35
II. Cast iron	B.G. Rs. 46.70 M.G. Rs. 27.20	40 40
I I. Wooden :		
(i) Hard wood	B.G. Rs. 25.50 M.G. Rs. 13.25	15 15
(ii) Soft wood (including cost of treatment)	B.G. Rs. 28.50 M.G. Rs. 14.50	12 1
IV. Concrete—Prices vary from Rs. 37.00 to Rs. 69.00 for through sleeper B.G. and from Rs. 24.00 to Rs. 27.12 for through sleeper M.G. depending on the different types.		

Kandla Port

2350. { **Shri Himmatsinhji:**
Shri Solanki:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that owing to unemployment the people from Gandhidham and that area near Kandla Port are gradually migrating elsewhere; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any plans for establishing small scale industries or any other means of employment for the displaced persons and others who settled down there after partition?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The economic situation in the Kandla-Gandhidham area continues to be practically what it has been for the past three or four years. With the completion of the major harbour works at Kandla Port, the population of the area, which was at one time about 40,000 came down to about 35,000, and