

brought this fact to the notice of D.V.C. authorities;

(c) whether this is one of the factors, why West Bengal is unwilling to take over the charge; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation & Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) The repairs have been completed.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government of West Bengal have not advanced this as a reason for the delay in their taking over the canal system.

(d) The question of taking over of the canal system by the Government of West Bengal is under negotiations between the Government of West Bengal and the D.V.C.

Non-Issue of Railway Tickets to Passengers at Guntur for Tenali

171. Shri Jashvant Mehta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railway passengers at Guntur were not issued the usual tickets to Tenali on the 6th June, 1962;

(b) if so, what were the reasons for not issuing the tickets;

(c) the number of passengers who travelled without tickets; and

(d) the number of passengers who were charged extra penalty on arrival at Tenali?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). As the stock of printed tickets to Tenali was exhausted at Guntur Station, printed tickets were not issued.

(c) Ten, five of whom intimated the T.T.E. before entraining.

(d) Five.

Post Offices in Rural Areas

172. Shrimati Renuka Ray: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been considerable delay in the construction of posts office buildings in rural areas, whereas funds allocated for the purpose have remained unspent; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to overcome the delay?

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

(b) The Projects in rural areas generally cost less than Rs. one lakh. The financial powers of Heads of Circles have recently been raised to Rs. one lakh and they have been permitted to engage the services of State P.W.Ds. for the execution of such projects under certain conditions. A separate wing of the C.P.W.D. has been formed and the strength of architects has been augmented.

Inclusion of 'Courtallam' in the list of Stations

173. Shri M. K. Kumaran: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board have refused to accept the request of the Government of Madras to include Courtallam in the list of stations to which railway seasonal concessions would be available; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, but this refers to correspondence of 1959. Very recently on 20-7-62 the Director of Information & Publicity, Government of Madras, has asked for reconsideration of the matter. No reply to this has been sent yet.