

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

(b) 549.56 acres.

(c) Only a part of it.

(d) 128.87 acres.

Maredumilli-Chintur Road in Andhra Pradesh

1853. Shri D. B. Raju: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to-date expenditure incurred on Maredumilli-Chintur road in East Godavary District, Andhra Pradesh under Rs. 100 lakhs scheme;

(b) whether the road has been completed and is fit for motoring;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any grant has been given for this for the current year; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Rs. 26.457 lakhs upto July, 1962.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e). Formation of the road is not yet complete. Numerous cross drainage works and metalling of the road are yet to be taken up. The estimated cost of the road has gone up considerably and the State Government's request for sanctioning more grant-in-aid than provided in Rs. 100 lakhs scheme is under consideration of the Government of India. The work, is, however in progress.

Booking of Lemons on S. Railway

1854. Shri D. B. Raju: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that lemons booked by the Southern Railway authorities are being categorised as vegetable in order to avoid

concessional rates for fruits, whereas the same lemons are being treated as fruits by the Bengal Government for taxation purposes; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):

(a) and (b). Lemons are charged as for vegetables taking into account their general use as a vegetable. The rate to be charged for transport by rail is not on the basis of classification for taxation purposes.

Advertising Campaign by 'Air India'

1855. Shri Inder J. Malhotra: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by 'Air India' on its advertising campaign outside India during 1960-61 and 1961-62;

(b) what advertising agency is handling these advertising campaigns; and

(c) what is the duration of their contract with 'Air India'?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Rs. 41 lacs and Rs. 52 lacs, respectively.

(b) The advertising campaigns in different countries are handled by qualified agencies in the respective countries.

(c) The duration of the contract is for one year at a time but it can be terminated or renewed depending on their services, after giving reasonable notice.

Foreign Exchange for Power Requirements in Bihar-West Bengal Area

1856. Shrimati Lakshmi Kanthamma: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sachdev Committee which has been

appointed by the Government of India to enquire into the Power requirements of Bihar-West Bengal area has recommended to the Government of India for appointing a special officer to look personally into the various delays that are occurring in the case of sanction of foreign exchange; and

(b) whether the Government of India have accepted the suggestion?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) The recommendation has been accepted and it is proposed to appoint a Special Officer for this purpose shortly.

Rural Electrification in Andhra Pradesh

1857. Shrimati Lakshminanthamma: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether it is a fact that by the end of the Third Plan period only about 15 per cent of the villages in Andhra Pradesh will be electrified as against the targets fixed by the Central Water and Power Commission at about 30 per cent?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): Out of 26,743 towns and villages in Andhra Pradesh as per Census Report of 1951, 2,165 were electrified by the end of the Second Plan period. 2,000 more places are expected to be electrified by the end of the Third Plan period giving a percentage of 15.57 only. No target in this regard was fixed by the Central Water and Power Commission.

Money Bag found by T.T.E.

1858. Shri R. P. Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item published in the *Indian Nation*, Patna dated 30th June, 1962 under the heading "T.T.E. deposits Lost Bag with Rs. 300"; and

(b) if so, whether the money bag has been returned to the owner?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The Government are aware of the news item.

(b) Not yet.

Discontinuance of Train Service from Patna to Barwadih

1859. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Express Train which was introduced from Patna to Barwadih via Dehri-on-Sone and Daltonganj has since been discontinued; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):

(a) and (b). A pair of Express trains Nos. 47UP/48 Down were introduced between Patna and Barwadih with effect from 1-4-1962 purely as an experimental measure, but were cancelled from 25-5-1962 due to very poor patronisation.

Quarters for P & T Employees

1860. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are no quarters for Posts and Telegraphs employees at Daltonganj (Palamau), Bihar; and

(b) if so, whether any provision has been made for constructing quarters during the Third Five Year Plan period?

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

(b) Proposal for acquisition of one acre of land for construction of quarters has been approved. The quarters will be constructed after the land has been taken over.