The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) Yes Sir, a scheme for the organization of cooperatives of handcart pliers on a pilot pasis has been sanctioned.

- (b) The Central Government will provide (i) loans to state governments to the extent the latter advance loans to societies for purchase of hand carts subject to the maximum of Rs. 10,000 per society repayable within a period of five years in equated annual instalments, (ii) grants to state governments'union territories to give subsidies for managerial expenses upto Rs. 900|- per society spread over a period of 3 to 5 years. The subsidy will be shared on 50:50 basis with the State government.
- (c) So far, no society has been organised under this scheme.
 - (d) Does not arise.

Motor Transport in Tripura

568. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of vehicles engaged in transport in Tripufa;
- (b) total number of persons working
 as drivers and assistants in these
 motor transport;
- (c) the highest and lowest rate of wages paid to these workers; and
- (d) whether Government propose to introduce any minimum wage rate for these employees?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 1619 (As on 29-10-1962).

- (b) 2561 (1659 drivers and 902 driver assistants).
- (c) Rs. 175|- and Rs. 50|- respective-Iy, per month.
- (d) The matter is under the consideration of the Tripura Administration.

P. and T. Employees

569. ∫ Shri Buta Singh: Shri Gulshan:

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

- (a) the number of P. & T. Officials with service of three years and more whose services were terminated under Rule 5 of Temporary services Rules throughout India during 1960, 1961 and upto October, 1962 for reasons unconnected with the General Strike of July, 1960;
- (b) the number of Scheduled Caste employees among them; and
- (c) the reasons for not awarding quasi-permanency to the above-said officials?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Farm Output

- 570. Shri Sezhiyan: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:
- (a) the short-term loans given by the Central Government to the different State Governments for increasing farm output during 1960-61 and 1961-62; and
- (b) the outstanding loan amounts and interests repayable by the States towards the loans granted prior to 1st April, 1960?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 65].

(b) The Accountants General concerned are responsible for the recovery of loans granted by the Central Government. Information regarding the outstanding loan amounts and interest repayable by the States on loans granted prior to 1-4-1960 is not, therefore, readily