

available in this Ministry. The required information is being collected from the Accountants General and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Construction of Railway Lines in Punjab

571. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many miles of new railway lines have been constructed in Punjab under the First and Second Plan periods; and

(b) the new railway lines proposed to be opened in Punjab during the Third Plan period?

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

(a) Information about construction of railway lines is not compiled State-wise but Railway-wise. From available records it has, however, been seen that out of the works carried out during the First and Second Five Year Plan periods, about 40 miles of new lines and about 54 miles of restorations of dismantled lines were in the Punjab State.

(b) Out of the new lines provided in the Railway's programme for the Third Five Year Plan as published by the Planning Commission, 1:27 miles portion of the Madhopur-Kathua line falls within the Punjab State.

Opening of new stations in Ferozepore Division

572. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of new stations to be opened in Ferozepore Division of Northern Railway during 1962-63?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): One flag station has been opened and the question of opening two train Halts is under consideration.

Covering shed on Passenger Platform at Baitarani Road Railway Station

573. **Shri Mallick:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided by Government to construct one covering shed on the Passenger Platform at Baitarani Road Railway station under South Eastern Railway in Orissa;

(b) if so, the total amount to be spent for this purpose; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Consumption of Tobacco

574. **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have made any assessment of the quantity of tobacco which is being consumed inside the country every year?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): Yes. A statement indicating the all India break up of tobacco consumption, typewise, for the past 5 years is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 66].

Pilot Projects for Tobacco

575. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri P. Kunhan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposals to set up pilot projects for growing flue-cured Virginia tobacco;

(b) if so, the details of this scheme and which sites have been selected for setting up these pilot projects; and