

culture. Applied research work has led to the recommendation of a high yielding (101—126 maunds per acre) non-lodging and non-shedding rice variety, Kaohsiung-22, two 2-rowed barley varieties, Rika and Herta, characterised by high yield (40 maunds per acre) and tolerance to rust, three oat varieties giving high yield of grain and fodder, and several introduced varieties of grasses, vegetable and fruit crops for hill areas.

(b) The Laboratory has developed the hybrid V.L. 54 which has been found to be suitable for medium altitudes. Another hybrid, V.L. 109 is reported to have done well at Leh.

Railway Bridge at Madhopur

1366. { Shri Inder J. Malhotra:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri Vishram Prasad:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the further progress made in the construction of the railway bridge over river Ravi at Madhopur; and

(b) when it is likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Out of 20 wells, to be sunk for the foundations for piers and abutments, sinking has so far been completed on 7 wells and work on the remaining 13 wells is in progress.

Overall progress of the well foundations is about 70 per cent. Contracts for girders have been awarded and arrangements made for the required steel partly from indigenous steel & partly from imports. However, the imported steel is expected to be received only by the end of the year and fabrication of the girders can commence only thereafter.

(b) On account of the delay in getting the girders, it is expected that the bridge can be completed only by the middle of 1965.

Building for Deoria Post Office

1367. **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:** Will the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for construction of a new building for Sadar (Main) Post Office Deoria (U.P.) has been under consideration since 1954;

(b) if so, when it will be constructed; and

(c) the rent paid by the Post Office to the Cooperative Bank, Deoria till 31st July, 1963?

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The construction work is likely to be completed by April, 1964.

(c) Rs. 18,933-33 nP.

Payment of Rent by P. & T. Officials

1368. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Posts & Telegraphs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Superintendents of Post Offices have to pay rent under F.R. 45-A i.e. 10 per cent of their pay;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the incumbents of such posts in the Kangra Provincial Division have been ordered to pay it on floor area basis; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) When in authorised occupation of Govt. accommodation having an area not more than what they are entitled to, the Superintendents have to pay rent under F.R. 45-A i.e. 10 per cent of their emoluments or standard rent of the accommodation, whichever is less.

(b) and (c). The building was taken on rent to accommodate both office and residence of the Superintendent of Post Offices Kangra Postal Division. Since the residential portion had much more area than what the officer was entitled to, he was