

Regarding the economics of rail-cum-road bridges on the narrow gauge, it would be more economical to have separate rail and road bridges. The estimate of costs of the two proposals will be submitted to the Punjab Government who will take final decision in the matter.

Children Education Allowance

1746. **Shri Pratap Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ministerial staff of his Ministry is not given the benefit of children education allowance for their wards who study in schools at places where such employees are not posted *vide* part 1 of the Ministry of Finance O.M. No. F.10(1) Est. (Special) 60 dated 30th January, 1962;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

(c) whether Government propose to extend this facility to the ministerial staff; and

(d) if so, from which date?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): The ministerial staff of the Ministry of Railways are governed by the Educational Assistance Rules applicable to non-gazetted staff on the Railways. Under these rules Educational Assistance is given in those cases where a Railway servant is compelled to send his child or children to a school away from the station at which he is posted owing to the absence of a school or schools of the requisite standard at the station at which he is posted.

Wagon Repairing Workshop at Raigarh

1747. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration a proposal for the establishment of a wagon repairing workshop at Raigarh, South

Eastern Railway, Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the proposal stands?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Initially the wagon repair shop was proposed to be set up at Raigarh. It appeared later that Raipur would be a better location, since Railway has the required land available there and also the development of the undulating land proposed to be acquired at Raigarh is likely to prove very expensive. However, both the alternative proposals with regard to the location, are under detailed examination, in all aspects, and a final decision will be taken shortly and thereafter the work commenced.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED REQUEST BY PAKISTAN FOR WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS OF THE INDIAN HIGH COMMISSION, KARACHI

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the reported request by Pakistan to withdraw certain officials of the Indian High Commission, Karachi, who are alleged to have conducted espionage activities.

The Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yesterday some reference was made to this in this House. At that time we had not received any official intimation to this effect but certain brief accounts had appeared in newspapers. This morning we got a message from Karachi from our High Commissioner stating that he had received a communication from the Pakistan Government asking us to withdraw our Air Adviser there and