

(a) whether any assessment has been made, since P & T Board was set up a few years ago, of its utility and usefulness; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on the P & T Board since its inception?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagwati): (a) The Estimates Committee of the Parliament went into the working of the P & T Board in 1960-61 and an examination of its various recommendations involved a review of the working of the P & T Board. Apart from this, no general review or assessment has been made so far.

(b) When the P & T Board came into existence, some of the senior officers already working in the P & T Directorate were made *ex-officio* Members of the Board, One UDC and one LDC were appointed for secretariat work and a post of Dy. Secretary was diverted to function as Secretary, P & T Board. Therefore, the additional cost involved was negligible.

Inland Letters and Aerogrammes

- *205. { Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri B. P. Yadava:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri N. R. Laskar:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 19 on the 13th August, 1963 regarding inland letters and aerogrammes and state:

(a) whether all the samples have been tested;

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) the final decision taken?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagwati): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Although some of the Samples were found suitable for the manufacture of inland letter cards, the cost of the paper is much higher than of the one now in use. The matter is therefore being further examined by the P&T Department in consultation with the Supplies Department.

Sugar Distribution through Co-operatives

- *206. { Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri P. C. Borooh:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

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

(a) whether Government are considering the question of distribution of sugar through co-operative societies in the States; and

(b) if so, when the scheme will come into operation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Distribution of sugar is primarily the concern of the State Governments. They have been advised to allot quotas of sugar to Cooperative Societies to the maximum extent both at wholesale as well as at retail levels

नेपाल को शिष्टमंडल

- *२०७. { श्री राम सेवक यादव :
श्री भी० प्र० यादव :
श्री बिशन चन्द्र सेट :
श्री धवन :
श्री हेडा :
श्री पें० वें टामुब्बया :
श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :
श्री दी० चं० शर्मा :
श्री श्याम लाल सर्राफ :
श्री मोहन स्वरूप :

च्या रेलवे मंत्राः दह वताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल में ही रेलवे मंत्रालय का एक शिष्टमंडल नेपाल गया था;

(ख) यदि हां तो उसका उद्देश्य क्या था; और

(ग) उस के क्या परिणाम निकले ?

रेलवे मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सै० बें० रामस्वामी) : (क) रेल मंत्रालय का एक शिष्टमण्डल (delegation) नेपाल गया था जो १४ अक्टूबर से १८ अक्टूबर १९६३ तक काठमांडू में रहा ।

(ख) शिष्टमण्डल रेलवे के लिए सरकारी स्तर पर टिम्बर खरीदने के सिलसिले में बातचीत करने के लिए गया था ।

(ग) शुरू में नेपाल सरकार ने १९६४ में ५० हजार वनकुट साल के स्लीपर और विशेष स्लीपर देने का वचन दिया है और आशा प्रकट की है कि आगामी वर्षों में और अधिक स्लीपर दिये जा सकेंगे ।

I.A.C. Services

*208. Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Capitals of all the states are connected with daily flight services of the I.A.C.;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that even thrice-weekly service to Bhubaneshwar from Calcutta is going to be cancelled?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir, with the exception of Bhubaneshwar, Shillong and Bhopal. There is a thrice weekly service to Bhubaneshwar from Calcutta operated under a short-fall

arrangement with the Government of Orissa. There is no airfield in Shillong but Gauhati, the nearest place to Shillong with an airport is adequately served by Indian Airlines Corporation services. The service to Bhopal was discontinued with effect from 1-4-1963, as it was found uneconomical.

(c) No, Sir.

Fertilizer Marketing Corporation

*209. { Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Ramchandra Ulaka:
Shri N. R. Laskar:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2 on the 13th August, 1963 and state:

(a) whether Government have since finalised the consideration of scheme for setting up a Fertilizer Marketing Corporation;

(b) if so, the functions and scope of activities of the Corporation; and

(c) the stage at which the matter rests?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The matter is still under consideration and the main features of this scheme will be known only after the scheme is finalised.

Postal Services

*210. { Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri B. P. Yadava:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 176 on the 20th August, 1963 regard-