

(b) whether a vigilance officer in the same department has also been suspended;

(c) if so, the grounds of suspension; and

(d) whether judicial proceedings have been contemplated?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) Government felt that charges are serious and involve allegations of smuggling of goods and they should be placed under suspension.

(d) Yes. It is proposed to prosecute the two officers.

Distribution of Fertilisers

553. **Shri D. J. Naik:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the criteria for distribution of fertilisers such as ammonium sulphate, double salt, urea and calcium ammonium nitrate to various States?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): Generally, fertilisers are allotted to the States after taking into account the following factors:—

(i) demands received from the States;

(ii) total supplies available by way of indigenous production and imports;

(iii) carry-over stocks already available with the States;

(iv) past performance of the States in lifting quotas allotted to them; and

(v) need for popularisation of fertilisers planned for production in the State.

Railway Link Between Paonta Sahib and Jagadhri

554. **Shri D. D. Puri:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to connect Paonta Sahib in Himachal

Pradesh with the Jagadhri Railway Station on the Northern Railway;

(b) if so, whether necessary survey in this regard has been completed; and

(c) when the work on the project is likely to begin and when it is likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri-S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No.

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

Zonal Training School at Sealdah

555. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Zonal Training School at Sealdah (Calcutta) is being shifted to Dhanbad;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) whether Government have to spend Rs. 20 lakhs more because of construction of a new building in Dhanbad?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahaawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) The existing facilities in the Zonal Training School at Sealdah are very inadequate and unsatisfactory. The school is situated in a very congested area and hostel facilities are very meagre.

(c) The estimated cost of the first phase of the work is Rs. 41.56 lakhs.

Railway Workshops

556. **Shri Namblar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an overwhelming majority of workmen, unskilled and semi-skilled, with over ten to fifteen years of service, are denied normal avenues of promotion by the introduction of trade apprentices in all railway workshops; and