

(c) A single teacher Primary School is functioning at Bhillakhedi Yard since January, 1967. Provision of marketing facilities has been approved and is being arranged. A lock up dispensary is functioning in the Yard since 26-1-1968, and the doctor from the Health Unit in Itarsi attends to it.

(d) Adequate Railway Protection staff have been posted to guard the Bhillakhedi Yard. In addition, there is a proposal for opening a G.R.P. Out Post.

(e) Please see reply to (c) above

#### Railway Quarters at Itarsi Station

625. **Shri Nitiraj Singh Chandhary:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are 'H' type Railway quarters at Itarsi (C. Railway);

(b) when they were constructed and at what cost;

(c) whether it is a fact that said quarters can exist for 20 years or more; and

(d) if so, why they are being demolished?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha):** (a) Yes, there are 31 such quarters at Itarsi.

(b) The quarters were constructed during 1943 at an approximate cost of Rs. 76,000.

(c) No, as they are of a purely temporary type.

(d) The quarters were meant to last for about 10 years. Their condition has become unsafe due to development of cracks, sagging of roofs etc., and they are consequently being demolished.

#### Allotment of Wagons for Transporting Chests

626. **Shri K. M. Abraham:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any petition from Saw Mill owners of Kottiyam District, has been received for the allotment of wagons to transport chests from Kottayam and Ettumanur Railway Stations;

(b) whether it is a fact that the concerned Station Masters are not allowing to load chests in empty wagons sent from there; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to issue instructions to the authorities concerned for permission to transport chests so that work may be resumed in these saw mills?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha):** (a) to (c). A representation was received from Quilon Packing Cases Suppliers Association for allotment of wagons for booking chests from Kottayam and Ettumanur stations.

During the period from 1st January to 15th May, 1967, 55 wagons of packing cases were loaded at these stations and as on 15th May, 1967, there are only five demands outstanding which could not be met due limited transshipment capacity at Ernakulam. Steps have been taken to supplement Contractor's labour with Departmental labour to improve the transshipment performance there.

#### Import of Pearls

627. **Dr. Karni Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many gold and silver smiths have been denied the opportunity of making applications for the import of synthetic stones and cultured pearls because necessary application forms have not been supplied to them so far; and

(b) whether time-limit for the consideration of the applications will