

coaxial channels between Calcutta and Kharagpur-Midnapore and Calcutta and Asansol for introduction of television relay transmission; and

(b) if so, when Doordarshan will be given this facility?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) No, Sir. At present there is no demand from Doordarshan for TV transmission facility between Calcutta and Kharagpur (or Midnapore) and Calcutta and Asansol

(b) Does not arise.

पत्तनों में गैर-सरकारी जहाजी कुली

1640. श्री मोहन स्वर्ण : क्या नौबहन और परिषद मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पत्तनों में गैर-सरकारी जहाजी कुलियों की व्यवस्था समाप्त करने की योजना को क्रियान्वित किया जा रहा है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उक्त व्यवस्था के स्थान पर जहाजी-कुलियों की नयी व्यवस्था की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

नौबहन और परिषद मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एच० एच० बिर्से):
(क) और (ख) बड़े पत्तनों में छाकी जहाजी कुली व्यवस्था के बारे में सरकार ने अभी कोई अंतिम निर्णय नहीं किया है।

Welfare Fund for Salt Workers

1641. **SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the unstable nature of the salt workers in areas like the Rann of Kutch, the Central Government have decided to set up a welfare fund for the benefit of salt workers; and

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) No. Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

Purchase of Buses by D.T.C.

1642. **SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether D.T.C. proposes to purchase more buses to meet the demand in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the number of buses to be added during the current financial year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). There is a provision in the current year's budget for purchase of 150 buses by Delhi Transport Corporation on replacement account. The Corporation has, however, deferred the purchase of these buses for the present. It proposes to consolidate the operations with its existing fleet.

Rate of Royalty on Iron Ore

1643. **SHRI NATHU RAM AHIRWAR:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the present rate of royalty on iron ore and the amount being given to Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the rate per tonne at which pig iron and steel are sold by the Steel Plants and the profit per tonne earned by them on these;

(c) whether the prices of pig iron and steel have doubled during the last few years; and

(d) whether any increase in the rate of royalty on iron ore is contem-