

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) to (c). The Government of India have not undertaken any reclamation operations in Orissa. The State Government have been requested to furnish necessary information in the matter. The information will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

#### TOURISTS

395. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited India from America, the United Kingdom, China, Japan, Australia and other countries during the years 1951 and 1952; and

(b) what further steps Government are taking to popularise tourist traffic in India?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The information is as follows:-

	First nine months of 1951-1952	
America	3,500	3,230
United Kingdom	5,984	4,313
China	251	196
Japan	500	344
Australia	240	199
Other countries.	9,525	7,998
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>16,278</b>

The figures for October and November 1952 are not yet available.

(b) Attention is invited to the reply to part (b) of Unstarred Question No. 496 given on 22nd July 1952. Since then it has been decided to open a tourist office at New York and small Tourist Information Offices at Banaras and Agra.

#### CALCUTTA-MADRAS RAILWAY LINE

396. **Pandit Lingaraj Misra:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any contemplated new Railway tracks linking up the Coastal Calcutta-Madras Railway line with the Calcutta-Nagpur line across the unopened regions of the Orissa State have been surveyed;

(b) if so, which are those tracks and what are their respective mileage and cost; and

(c) whether it is contemplated to take up any of those Projects in the next two or three years?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). Yes.

The particulars—length and the estimated cost of the lines are:—

Name of the line.	Length	Approx. estimated cost
(1) From Talcher to Sambalpur.	90.43	4.5 Crores
(2) From Talcher to Rourkela via Barakot.	117.70	7.0 Crores
(3) From Kantabanji to Sambalpur via Bolangir.	115.20	7.0 Crores
(4) From Khurda Rd. to Bolangir via Sonepur.	179.00	8.0 Crores

(c) A final decision in regard to Projects to be taken in hand in the next two or three years has not been taken.

#### KARNATAK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (REPRESENTATION)

397. **Shri Naswi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation regarding the transport difficulties in the Hubli District has been received from the Karnatak Chamber of Commerce; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken on the representation?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes.

(b) The Hon. Secretary, Karnatak Chamber of Commerce, Hubli, was informed with reference to the proposals made by that Chamber:

(i) That doubling of the track on the Dharwar-Hubli-Gadag section would entail heavy expenditure, and was not therefore justified by the existing volume of traffic offering on the section.

(ii) That the question of providing loop lines at stations would have to be considered on the merits of each case depending upon the necessity