

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) No accurate information is available regarding the number of labourers affected as a result of the closure of tea gardens in Assam but the number is understood to be about 10,000. Information regarding the number of such workers in gardens that have given notice of closure is being collected.

(b) and (c). The Government of Assam have issued a directive that workers affected by the closure should be employed to the maximum extent possible on P.W.D. projects and they are also persuading local bodies, contractors and other concerns to give work to as many of them as possible.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know how many of these 10,000 have been provided with alternative employment?

**Shri Abid Ali:** We are collecting the information.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know how far this persuasion has taken effective shape?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Efforts are being made; some of the workers have already been employed.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Question-hour is over.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Only one question, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I cannot allow after the Question-hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### ELECTRIFICATION OF ALIBAGH

\*1101. **Shri Kajrolkar:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India object to the electrification of Alibagh, Bombay State owing to the situation of observatory there; and

(b) if so, how long the people of Alibagh will remain deprived of electricity?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) No, but certain restrictions have been imposed to safeguard against interference to the magnetic observations at Alibagh Observatory.

(b) Does not arise.

### रेलवे-वर्कशाप

४७६. श्री बाबपाल : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) बीकानेर राज्य रेलवे और जोधपुर राज्य रेलवे के उत्तर रेलवे में विलय के बाद उत्तर रेलवे की छौटी लाइनों के वर्कशापों की संख्या;

(ख) इन में से कौन सा वर्कशाप केन्द्रीय वर्कशाप है; तथा

(ग) क्या इन वर्कशापों के बड़ाने की कोई योजना है और यदि है तो वह कब कार्यान्वित की जायेगी ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Two. The Bikaner and Jodhpur workshops.

(b) Each of these workshops is centrally located for the metre gauge sections that it serves, but of the two, the Jodhpur Workshop is better equipped.

(c) The rationalisation of capacity of these two workshops to obtain optimum efficiency is being examined. No schemes have yet been formulated for the extension of either of these workshops.

### RAILWAY STAFF COLLEGE

477. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state when and where has the Railway Staff College been re-opened?

(b) What were the main causes for closing down the Railway Staff College at Dehra Dun?

(c) How many area schools are there to train class III Railway staff and how many are going to be opened in the near future?

(d) Who are the administrative authorities of the staff college?

(e) How many officers can be trained in the college each year?

(f) Are any arrangements going to be made to accommodate more officers to be trained from the same college?