

(d) Work has commenced only recently and no progress has been reported so far.

(e) Does not arise.

MINIMUM WAGES ACT

493. Shri Raghuramaiah: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minimum Wages Act has been brought into force in Madras State; and

(b) if not, whether the Madras Government have given any reasons for the non-enforcement?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Minimum rates of wages have been fixed in the Madras State in respect of all employments included in Part I of the Schedule appended to the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. As regards employment in agriculture which is included in Part II of the Schedule minimum rates have not yet been fixed and the matter is under the consideration of the State Government.

(b) Does not arise.

डाकघर

४९४. श्री विभूति मिश्र : संवरण मंत्री

यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सर गार २००० और उस से अधिक संयुक्त जनसंख्या वाले गांवों के मुद्रों की सेवा के लिये डाकघर खोलने का विचार कर रही है, और यदि हां तो किस तिथि से ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Yes, subject to availability of Funds, but village with population of 2,000 and over are given first priority. As various combinations of villages are possible and its funds are limited, no such date can, for obvious reasons, be fixed.

METRE GAUGE SYSTEMS

495. Shri P. Subba Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to connect the Metre gauge systems of North and South India between Khandwa and Hingoli to facilitate movement of wagons from North to South and vice versa?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The reply is in affirmative.

TRAIN BETWEEN CALCUTTA AND MADRAS

496. Shri P. Subba Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to run through trains between Calcutta and Puri and Madras via Simbachelom North and Anakapalli avoiding Waltair?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): There is no such proposal.

LITAN-UKHRUL ROAD

497. Shri Rishang Kelshing: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent for the construction of the road between Litan and Ukhrul prior to the integration of the State to the Central Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have abandoned the idea of completing the said road; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Rs. 70,500.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) Does not arise.

MICA MINES

498. Shri K. C. Sodhia: (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether there are any mica mines in Madhya Pradesh and if so, what is their total number and what was their total output during 1950-51 and 1951-52?

(b) What is the total approximate number of labourers employed in mica mines in Madhya Pradesh?

(c) What was the total amount of money provided for welfare work in these mines by the Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund during 1950-51 and 1951-52?

(d) What is the composition of the Advisory Committee of the Fund for Madhya Pradesh?

(e) When was this Committee constituted last time?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) There is only one mica mine working in Madhya Pradesh. About 12 cwts. of dressed mica was produced from this mine during the year 1950. There was no production during the year 1951.