

(b) What steps have been taken by the authorities to prevent such disturbances in future?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No serious loss or damage to railway property has been caused.

(b) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary measures to prevent such occurrences.

RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT CUTTACK

*309. **Shri Muniswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a new remedy has been found against insect pests in the Central Rice Research Institute at Cuttack?

(b) Have steps been taken to popularise this remedy throughout India?

(c) Is the Research Institute carrying on further investigations on this remedy?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes; powdered rhizome of an indigenous semi-aquatic plant called 'Sweat flag' has been found very effective against pests of stored rice and paddy.

(b) This has been published in the annual reports of the Institute.

(c) Yes; further work is in progress.

DELIVERY OF MAILS AT BALODA BAZAR

*310. **Shri B. N. Misra:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that mails at Baloda Bazaar are delivered to addressees on the second or even on the third day of their arrival at the post office?

(b) If so, what steps have the Postal authorities taken for an earlier delivery?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Some of the articles were being delivered on the following day of their arrival and

if the next day happened to be a Sunday they were delivered on the third day, on account of the Rail and the mail motor timings.

(b) Additional staff has been sanctioned to avoid the delay and to expedite the delivery and endeavours are also being made to revise the mail motor timings.

POSTAL RATES ON BOOKS

*311. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the trend in the income from postage on book-packets since the enhanced rates have come into operation in the current financial year?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The information is not available as no account is kept of the revenue derived from various items of traffic separately. But from the trend of traffic for the month of May, 1953 it would appear that the income is on the increase.

ननी स्टेशन के पास मालगाड़ी का पटरी पर से उतरना

१४०. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : (क) क्या रेलवे की ओर से यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह सच है कि २ जून, १९५३ को उत्तर रेलवे के ननी स्टेशन के पास १००६ डाऊन मालगाड़ी पटरी पर से उतर गयी थी जिसके कारण बहुत हानि हुई ?

(ख) दुर्घटना होने के क्या कारण थे ?

(ग) पिछली बार कब उन रेलों की पांतों की जांच हुई थी ?

(घ) यात्रा आरम्भ होने के पहिले क्या गाड़ी के डिब्बों की जांच की गयी थी ?

(ङ) जब यह मालगाड़ी अलाहाबाद यार्ड में खड़ी थी तब क्या उसकी जांच की गयी थी ?