

(d) A copy of the resolutions adopted by the Ghee Packers Conference is available in the Library of the House.

(e) No.

MINIMUM WAGES ACT

345. Shri Ramananda Das: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the application of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 has been extended to all categories of Contract Labour under Federal Railways?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, has not been extended to cover all categories of contract labour under the Railways. In so far as the Railways are concerned, the Act applies only to employments on road construction, building operations, stone breaking and stone crushing. Contract labour in these employments is covered by the Act.

SHIFTING OF TECHNICAL AND DEVELOPMENT CIRCLES

346. Shri Gidwani: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item published in the *Indian Express*, Bombay Edition, dated the 2nd October, 1953, on page 6, regarding shifting of Technical and Development Circle of Posts and Telegraphs Department of the Government of India from Jabalpur to New Delhi;

(b) whether Government propose to shift the same;

(c) whether the construction of the Tele-Communications Training Centre building at Jabalpur has been completed; and

(d) what is the estimated cost of the building?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The Government have seen the news item

referred to in the *Indian Express*, Bombay Edition, dated the 26th October, 1953.

(b) No.

(c) Not yet, the work is in progress.

(d) 20 lakhs approximately.

DERAILMENT OF GRAND TRUNK EXPRESS

347. { Sardar A. S. Saigal:
Shri Birbal Singh:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Muniswamy:
Shri C. R. Iyyunni:

(a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on the 30th October, 1953, at about 8-50 A.M. some bogies of the Grand Trunk Express got derailed between Basin Bridge Junction and Korukkuppetai on the Southern Railway?

(b) How many passengers were injured?

(c) What was the actual loss suffered?

(d) What are the reasons for this derailment?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) At about 8-51 hours on 30th October, 1953 while No. 15 Grand Trunk Express was running through Basin Bridge Junction Station, the station next to Madras Central on the Madras-Bezwa Section of the Southern Railway, its coaches, 7th to 11th from the engine, derailed near the B Cabin of the station.

(b) One passenger sustained minor injuries.

(c) The approximate cost of damage to rolling stock and permanent way was Rs. 2,473.

(d) The provisional finding of the Government Inspector of Railways who held an enquiry into this accident is that the derailment was caused by spread of gauge of the track.