

(c) If the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, will Government state the reasons?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Reasons are (a) (i) To cover the cost of the supervisory organisation on a "no profit, no loss" basis and (ii) to provide certain other facilities such as free medical treatment and free supply of buckles and badges

(b) Apart from making for uniformity of practice, the scheme will be in the interests of the licensed porters themselves and also result in improved service to the travelling public.

#### MINIMUM WAGES ACT

**\*433. Shri Ramananda Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state how many infringements of the nature of short payment and non-payment for the weekly holidays under the Minimum Wages Act have been detected by the Chief Labour Commissioner's Organisations in respect of the workers employed in the "Scheduled Employment" directly by the Indian Railways and through their contractors during the year ending in July, 1953?

(b) How many prosecutions have been made under Section 22 of the Minimum Wages Act so far and with what results?

(c) What further action has been proposed by Government to enforce rigidly the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act in the light of the experience gained so far?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) The Chief Labour Commissioner's Organisation has detected 9 cases of short payment in Departmental establishments and 92 cases in contractors' establishments. The cases in respect of non-payment for weekly holidays have been 21 in Departmental establishments and 53 in contractors' establishments.

(b) One. This was subsequently withdrawn and compounded out of Court as desired by the parties.

(c) Instructions have been issued to the inspection staff to pay particular attention to this matter. All the Ministries of the Government of India employing industrial labour have also been requested to extend the fullest co-operation to the inspecting officers and to ensure the proper implementation of the Act and the Rules both in regard to the departmental establishments as well as contractors' establishments.

#### POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS OFFICES IN RAJASTHAN

**\*434. Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 105 asked on the 14th November, 1952 and state:

(a) the number of Posts and Telegraphs Offices opened in Rajasthan during the year 1952-53; and

(b) how many new Posts and Telegraphs Offices are proposed to be opened in Rajasthan during the year 1953-54?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):**

(a) Post Offices	{	Rural	48
		Urban	3
Telegraph Offices			6

(b) The target for 1953-54 is 330 Post Offices and 9 telegraph offices.

#### NAME BOARDS AT RAILWAY STATIONS

**\*435. Shri R. N. S. Deo:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government in regard to languages used in the name boards of Railway stations; and

(b) the reasons for removal of Oriya from the name-boards of some Railway stations in Singhbhum District in Bihar, on the Eastern Railway, particularly in the ex-States of Seraikella and Kharsawan?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The policy of the Government is that the names of stations on station name-boards should be indicated in

- (i) Hindi in Devanagri script;
- (ii) English; and
- (iii) the regional language.

In special circumstances, an additional language may also be used in consultation with the Railway Users' Consultative Committee.

(b) The practice of using Oriya script on the station name-boards of stations in Singhbhum District was abandoned in accordance with the recommendation of the Local Advisory Committee of the former Bengal Nagpur Railway.

#### CONTAMINATED WATER IN AGARTALA

**\*436. Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether any examination of water of suspected tube-wells in Agartala Town has been undertaken and if so, what are the results;

(b) what are the reasons for intestinal trouble to the large number of citizens in Agartala; and

(c) whether any precautionary measures have been taken in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) Yes. Its chemical quality is satisfactory except for high iron contents. The high presumptive Coli Count in the water does not by itself make it bacteriologically unsatisfactory. Further bacteriological examination, however, will be made.

(b) There can be many causes for such trouble apart from an infected water supply e.g. infected food, malnutrition and under-nutrition.

(c) Precautionary measures as far as food and nutrition are concerned are obvious. And as regards infection from water, if that is the basic cause,

this can only be removed by a filtered water-supply.

#### RAILWAY TRAINING SCHOOL, UDAIPUR

**\*437. Shri Bheekha Bhai:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any site has been selected for the building of the Railway Training School at Udaipur?

(b) When will the construction work be started?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shaḥnawaz Khan):** (a) The proposal for a Railway Training School at Udaipur is still under examination.

(b) Efforts will be made to take this work in hand next year, if the proposal is finally accepted.

#### STEAMER FREIGHT RATES

**\*438. Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that representations were made to him about the exorbitant freights and fares charged by the steamer companies, plying to and from Assam and Calcutta;

(b) whether any steps have been taken in the matter; and

(c) if so, what?

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

(b) and (c). The matter is under examination in consultation with the State Governments.

#### ROWRAIAH AERODROME

**\*439. Shri Sarmah:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether there have been scheduled air services to the Rowraiah aerodrome at Jorhat (Assam) regularly in the last few years and these are still continuing?

(b) Is it a fact that this aerodrome has been made over to the Indian Air Force?