

(c) Are Government aware that civil air passengers are put to inconvenience by the I.A.F. employees?

(d) If so, what arrangements do Government propose to make for civilian passengers at the said air port?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A report to this effect has been received from the hon. Member.

(d) Action is being taken to investigate the matter. Instructions have been issued meanwhile that whatever facilities were available to civil passengers prior to the transfer of the aerodrome to the Air Force should be restored. The provision of a separate Civil Aviation Terminal building at the aerodrome is also under consideration.

#### RAILWAY RATES TRIBUNAL

**\*440. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the present constitution of the Railway Rates Tribunal;

(b) the number of formal complaints received by them under Section 41 of the Railway Act during 1952-53; and

(c) the number of applications, if any, made to them by the Central Government under Section 42(1) of the Act?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The Railway Rates Tribunal consists of a President and two other members appointed by the Central Government.

(b) Five complaints under Section 41 of the Indian Railways' Act were received by the Tribunal during 1952-53; one of these has been allowed to be withdrawn.

(c) No application was made to the Railway Rates Tribunal by the Central Government under Section 42(1)

of the Indian Railways' Act during 1952-53; during 1950-51 two applications were made and during 1951-52 two more applications were made. One of them was subsequently withdrawn.

#### IMPORTED WHEAT

**\*441. Shri Kakkan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reduce the price of imported wheat; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the same?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishappa):**

(a) and (b). The pool price of imported wheat has been reduced by Re. 1/- per maund with effect from 15-11-1953. The reduction was made as a result of periodical review of pool prices which are fixed at the beginning of the year on the basis of the best available estimates of sources of supply and price etc.

#### TRAINS IN NORTH GUJRAT

**\*442. Shri S. G. Parikh:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware that on the Metre Gauge Section of the Western Railway in North Gujrat, trains on the branch lines are getting irregular and many a time the passengers are stranded overnight at the road side stations due to failure of engines and short supply of water?

(b) Is it a fact that some old locomotives have been brought there and if so, why?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No. However, in the month of October, 1953, the punctuality of passengers trains in the Mehsana District suffered due to unavoidable causes such as engine failures and sudden failure of