

(b) The matter will be considered after the judgment has been examined.

PRIVATE-OWNED AIRCRAFTS

*1587. **Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircrafts owned by private persons in India;

(b) the types of aircrafts; and

(c) whether the private-owned aircrafts also come under the purview of the Indian Aircraft Rules?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) There were 294 privately owned aircraft in India on 1st March, 1954.

(b) I lay on the Table of the House a statement giving the required information. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 38.]

(c) Yes, Sir.

ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE

*1588. **Dr. Natabar Pandey:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state how many qualified staff of the Posts and Telegraphs department in Orissa were selected for promotion as Inspectors in 1953?

(b) How many appointments were made to posts of clerks in Orissa circle in 1953?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 6.

(b) 16 have been appointed and 45 are under training.

DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS

322. **Ch. Raghbir Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is duplication of work between the Directorate of Economics and Statistics and the I.C.A.R.?

(b) If so, what steps have Government taken so far to avoid this duplication?

(c) What will be the consequent reduction in expenditure?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

HOUSING OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

323. **Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Railway employees still housed in condemned wagons in the Sealdah Division of the Eastern Railway; and

(b) the arrangements Government have made to provide these staff with quarters?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) On 1st January 1954, 789. Staff of Sealdah Division were living in condemned wagons.

(b) Wagon-bodies are being replaced by 'pucca' quarters. During 1953-54, 232 staff quarters were expected to be made available for allotment to staff living in condemned wagons and provision has been made to house the remaining staff in pucca quarters by the end of 1954-55.

DEPARTMENTAL TELEGRAPH OFFICES

324. **Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the revised standards for opening Departmental Telegraph Offices several such offices are due to be opened in the West Bengal Circle;

(b) whether the rate of progress in regard to the opening of such D.T.Os. in the West Bengal Circle is slow as compared to other circles; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No.

(b) No (None of the combined offices fulfils the standard for conversion into departmental telegraph office).

(c) Does not arise.

LOANS TO AGRICULTURISTS

325. Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amounts given to the Government of West Bengal for providing various kinds of loans to the agriculturists during 1952-53 and 1953-54?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

TELEPHONES AT AGARTALA

326. Shri Dasaratha Deb: (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the total number of telephones given to the public at Agartala so far?

(b) Do Government propose to supply telephones to all the applicants at Agartala?

(c) If so, when?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 30 direct connections and 4 extensions.

(b) Yes.

(c) It is expected that by July 1954 the waiting list will be wiped out.

RAILWAY EARNINGS

327. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the earnings from passenger and goods traffic from Panchkura and Machada Railway Stations on the Eastern Railway in 1951, 1952 and 1953 (separately station-wise and traffic-wise)?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): A statement showing the required information is attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No 39.]

WEATHER BULLETINS

328. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of half-yearly weather Bulletins broadcast for farmers during 1951, 1952 and 1953;

(b) in how many cases the check reports had contradicted these forecasts;

(c) the number of radio stations from which these forecasts are broadcast as on 1st January 1951 and on 1st January, 1954 respectively; and

(d) how far the State Governments are co-operating and helping in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Weather Bulletins for farmers are issued daily and not half-yearly. The number of such Bulletins broadcast in each half-year during 1951, 1952 and 1953 is shown below:

Year	1st January to 30th June	1st July to 31st December
1951	2896	2944
1952	2912	2944
1953	2896	2944

(b) It was generally found from sample checks that approximately 10 per cent. of the forecasts were contradicted.

(c) 22 and 23 respectively.

(d) The State Governments are co-operating by installing a number of community radio sets in the villages where these bulletins are being received along with other radio programmes.

TICKETLESS TRAVELLING

329. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ticketless travellers caught and prosecuted on the Waltair—Raipur line and the Parlakimedi Light Railway line in the Eastern Railway during 1951, 1952, and 1953 respectively; and

(b) the amount realised on that score in these years?