

(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?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 40.]

#### PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

**330. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instructions have been issued to the surplus State Governments to stop procurement of foodgrains on reaching certain targets; and

(b) if so, what are the targets fixed for each State?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) and (b). The surplus States have been told that we were considering advising them to stop further procurement of rice after a certain target had been reached. The position is under examination and no targets have yet been fixed.

#### POST OFFICES IN BANARAS DISTRICT

**331. Shri Ganpati Ram:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the total number of new post offices opened in Banaras District in 1952 and 1953 and the estimated expenditure incurred on them?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** Information is available only according to financial years. In 1951-52, six new post offices were opened in Banaras District, in 1952-53 four, and in 1953-54 (up to the end of February) three. The approximate additional annual expenditure on these thirteen new post offices is estimated at Rs. 12,600.

#### RAILWAY COACHES

**332. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of coaches manufactured respectively by the Hindustan Coach Building factory, Jessop and Company and at the various Railway workshops during the calendar year 1953?

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**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** Messrs. Hindustan Aircraft Ltd....125.

Messrs Jessops and Co., Coaches.  
55.

4-WH. Motor and Parcel Vans. ... 84.  
Railway Workshops ...471.

#### NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

**333. Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the names of the Schemes for development of National Highways with their respective costs to be undertaken or continued in 1954-55?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** As the number of works involved is very large, a statement giving details of works estimated to cost rupees two lakhs and above, which will be commenced or continued in 1954-55, is attached. [Placed in the Library. See No. S-108/54.]

#### TRADE UNIONS

**334. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unions recognised, the year when recognition was granted, their names, membership and the categories of the staff they are entitled to enrol in the Posts and Telegraphs Department;

(b) which Unions have been recognised after the initiation of 'Re-alignment' talks in 1948 and how many of them are affiliated to INTUC; and

(c) whether the membership shown above is based on the receipt of subscription or on information given by the unions?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) A statement in 4 parts containing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 41.]

(b) The realignment talks began in 1948 but broke down in January 1949