

Organisation in Calcutta is in arrears; and

(b) whether declaration of bonus on policies for the five-year period ending on the 31st March, 1952 has been delayed?

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

(b) No.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Have any representations been received from the employees of this organisation regarding the increased pressure of work on the staff and at the same time curtailment of the strength of the staff and abolition of a number of posts like section superintendents, upper and lower division clerks, peons, etc.?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As a matter of fact, the state of affairs is just the opposite. The Director of Postal Life Insurance has experienced that on account of the introduction of certain time and labour saving devices, a number of vacancies in the upper and lower division clerical cadres had to be declared surplus and abolished.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Is it a fact that recently a gazetted post of a Deputy Director was created in this organisation while, at the same time, a number of clerical posts have been surrendered?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Yes, Sir. That was for the work of publicity as well as for co-ordination between the various wings and sections of the department and not on account of increased pressure of work entirely.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Is it not anticipated that as a result of publicity, work will increase and there is no need for diminution of staff or increased pressure of work on the staff which is there at present?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I believe the hon. Member will realise that on account of time and labour saving devices adopted—which are usually adopted in all insurance companies—there will be surplus staff on the one hand and if

the work increases, we shall see that the staff also increases proportionately.

TICKETLESS TRAVEL

***2255. Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any decrease in ticketless travelling on the North Eastern Railway in 1953-54 as compared to 1952-53; and

(b) whether Government propose to take any extra steps this year for checking ticketless travelling?

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

(b) Yes.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: May I know whether it is a fact that some railway employees were found travelling without tickets last year?

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps they had passes.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Generally, they have passes.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that some railway employees in North Eastern Railway often travel without tickets in upper classes also?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: When railway employees travel, they generally travel on duty and they are provided with railway passes. Hence, there should be no necessity for them to travel without tickets when travelling on duty.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: May I know whether the Government propose to intensify checking by magistrates?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The experiment of magisterial checks has proved a success and I am sure it will receive proper attention at the Railway Ministry level.

श्री भार० एन० सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि १९५२-५३ और १९५३-५४ में बिना टिकट यात्रा करने वाले यात्रियों से कितना रुपया वसूल किया गया है ।

श्री शाहनवाज़ खाँ : बहुत बड़ी मिकदार में रुपया वसूल हुआ है, लेकिन अगर आनरेबुल मेम्बर रकम जानना चाहते हैं तो मुझे नोटिस चाहिए ।

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

*2256.. **Shri B. K. Patel:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to encourage formation of Co-operative Societies amongst the agriculturists as stated by him at a Co-operative conference, held in Madhya Bharat in March, 1954; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in the matter?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) The steps taken in the matter include financial assistance, arrangements for better supervision and training, preferential use of co-operatives for distribution of Government aid and material requisites to agriculture wherever possible, etc.

Shri B. K. Patel: Is the scheme going to be applied to all the States in India?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir. Whatever assistance it is possible to give will be distributed to all the States in India.

Shri B. K. Patel: Has the Government advised all States to carry out this scheme?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir. We are in constant correspondence with them and they know what facilities

are available. Whenever facilities like training and other things are concerned, we invite their suggestions and take their personnel.

Shri S. N. Das: What are the concrete steps taken by the Central Government during this year?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It would be difficult to state them only for this year. I can tell my hon. friend that the Central Government have provided Rs. 10 lakhs for organising and expanding facilities for education and training of co-operative personnel. We have set apart Rs. 40 lakhs for experiments in co-operative farming. There are Rs. 5 crores to be advanced by way of medium and long-term loans. The Reserve Bank has also liberalised the procedure for the grant of accommodation to State co-operative banks and has provided for the grant of medium-term loans as advances to the agriculturists.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA

*2257. **Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the answer given to starred question No. 588 on the 17th August, 1953 and state the reasons why the price of the F.A.C.T. sulphate of ammonia is higher than that of Sindri?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): The procurement price of F.A.C.T. sulphate of Ammonia is higher than that of the Sindri material due to the high cost of production of the former.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know from which other sources sulphate of ammonia is mixed up in the fertiliser pool?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There are about four sources so far as I can follow the question of the hon. Member. If he wants the sources from which we get this, they are: the factory in Alwaye, the factory in Mysore, the Sindri factory and there are some others where it is a by-product.