

locomotives that are with the Port Trust will be replaced this year?

Shri Alagesan: If the hon. Member goes on asking about individual items. I am afraid I should ask for notice

Mr. Speaker: He can put questions of a general nature, if he likes.

Shri Alagesan: One is nearly complete. It will be completed by June 1954; after this is completed the other one will be taken.

RAILWAY OUT-AGENCIES

*213. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many out-agencies there are on the Northern Railway;

(b) the number of buses that were at the disposal of these out-agencies on the 1st January, 1954; and

(c) whether a uniform policy is followed as regards the granting of out-agencies?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) There are 34 out-agencies on the Northern Railway.

(b) The total number of motor vehicles including buses at the disposal of these out-agencies was 213.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what that uniform policy is?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Applications are invited and a committee of officers sits and it selects the most suitable persons; where other things are equal preference is given to displaced persons. That is the policy.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any distinction is made between the backward areas of the State and those areas which are more or less developed.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No, Sir.

Shri D. C. Sharma: How many of these out-agencies are in the State of Punjab?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I have not got the break-up state-wise. He asked for the number of out-agencies on the Northern Railway. There are 34 out-agencies on the Northern Railway, State-wise figures, I do not have.

NAGPUR AIRCRASH

*214. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the action taken regarding the recommendation of the Court of Inquiry appointed to investigate into Nagpur Aircrash for stricter screening of the Pilots and improvement in mechanical devices?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): I lay on the Table of the House, a statement giving the requisite information. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 43.]

Shri Gidwani: May I know whether the flying tests of 20 Dakotas with a view to determine their performance under critical conditions etc. have been carried out; if so with what results?

Shri Raj Bahadur: They are being carried out. The tests will take about three months to be completed.

Shri Gidwani: Will the report of the Committee set up by the D. G. C. A., consisting of technical officers of his department, to investigate the causes of false alarm etc. and to recommend measures to make the system infallible, be placed on the Table of the House after it is examined by the D. G. C. A.?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That will be taken into consideration.

Shri G. S. Singh: May I know how many pilots are required by the D. G. C. A. for testing these airline pilots, and the arrangements? And how many were disqualified in testing this year?