ad-hoc Committees and their dates of appointment are:—

- Ad hoc Committee on Homoeopathy, December, 1952.
- Family Planning Research and Programme Committee, 6th May, 1953.
- Committee for Drafting Model Public Health Act, 6th October, 1953.
- Committee to review conditions of services of Nursing Profession. 19th May, 1954.
- 5. Committee for the Control of Leprosy. 19th May, 1954.
- 6. Family Planning Grants Committee. 28th May, 1954.
- Ad hoc Body of Local Self Government Ministers. 27th June, 1954.
- (ii) Ad hoc Committee on Homoeopathy resubmitted its final report on the 14th September, 1953.
- (iii) Committees mentioned at 2 to 7 in (a) (i) above are still functioning. Of these, the Family Planning Research and Programme Committee Family Planning Grants Committee, are submitting reports from time to time. The Committee for Drafting Model Public Health Act, is expected to complete its work by the end of February, 1955. The Committee to review the conditions of service of the Nursing Profession and the Committee for the Control of Leprosy have been asked to submit reports within a period of six months. The Ad hoc Body of Local Self Government Ministers will meet as and when necessary.
- (b) Ad hoc Committee on Homoeopathy.

ABOLITION OF SPLIT DUTY IN P. & T. DEPARTMENT

- 724. Shri Ramananda Das: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had accepted the recommendation of the Expert Committee of

- the Posts and Telegraphs Department regarding the abolition of split duty as far as practicable;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that this recommendation is not being implemented in so far as the R.M.S. Division, Burdwan is concerned; and
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The recommendation of the P. & T. Expert Committee was that Split Duty should be "avoided" as far as possible and limited to the absolute minimum and this recommendation was accepted

(b) and (c). The above recommendation is being followed in respect of Burdwan R.M.S. Office also. It is not possible to avoid split duty altogether consistent with the work required to be done by this office.

MANGANESE MINE WORKERS

725. Shri N. A. Borkar: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have decided to appoint a special Tribunal at Nagpur to decide the retrenchment issue of the Manganese Mine workers in Madhya Pradesh?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): No.

RAILWAY WATCH AND WARD STAFF

- 726. Shri N. A. Borkar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Railway authorities recruited Watch and Ward Staff in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the period of 1952-53 directly without consulting the Employment Exchanges of the State;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that no Scheduled Castes candidate was appointed in the said service during the said period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

Written Answers

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No. Eight Scheduled Caste candidates were recruited on the Eastern Railway. None of the scheduled caste candidates nominated by the Employment Exchanges at Nagpur and Amraoti appeared for selection on the Central Railway.

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727. Shri N. A. Borkar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to link the Bhandara town by a railway line with the Bhandara Road in Madhya Pradesh:
- (b) if so, whether the survey of the proposed line has been completed;
- (c) whether Government have received any representation from the people of Bhandara Town in this connection; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) Investigations revealed that the only reasonable way of dealing with the position was to improve the existing bus services and to provide a really efficient goods and passenger road motor service between Bhandara Road Station and Bhandara Town.

EXPERIMENTAL POST OFFICES

728. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Experimental Post Offices, Telegraph Offices and

Telephone Exchange proposed to be opened in 1954-55 in the State of the Punjab; and

(h) whether the telephone lines of the erstwhile States in the Punjab have been integrated into the main system of the Indian Union and thrown open for public use?

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

Post Offices 96
Telegraph Offices 27
Telephone Exchanges 7

(b) All the ex-State telephone systems in Punjab have been connected to *general trunk network and are open for public use except Sundarnagar exchange which is used solely for administrative purposes by the Himachal Pradesh Government.

FANS FOR THIRD CLASS COACHES

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

- (a) the number of third class coaches fitted with electric fans during the year 1953-54; and
- (b) what is the plan for the current year?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 1145.

(b) 1113 coaches are expected to he Atted during 1954-55.

नये बन्दरगाह

७३०. सेठ गोविन्य बास : क्या परि-बहुत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि आजकल भारत में कौन-कौन से नये बन्दर-गाह उन्नत किये जा रहे हैं?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Kandla is being developed into a major port, but apart from this, no new ports are being developed in India at present.