

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Madras have not taken over the estates from its foreign owners or their agents after the expiry of its lease period sometime ago; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes. Only 217 acres are under cinnamon cultivation.

(b) No. This estate covers an area of about 2,854 acres.

(c) Yes. Only an area of 2,000 acres was on lease.

(d) The matter is being looked into.

TRUNK-TELEPHONE IN DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

740. Shri Bahadur Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number and names of the district headquarter stations in which trunk-telephone facilities have not been installed so far?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 64.]

LOAN FOR TRANSPORT NATIONALISATION SCHEME

741. Sardar Hukam Singh: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the number of State Governments, who have so far approached the Central Government for financial assistance and for loan for expenditure on road transport nationalisation schemes;

(b) the considerations which are generally applied while considering such requests;

(c) the names of the States with the amount of loan asked for and sanctioned in the years (i) 1953-54 and (ii) 1954-55 so far;

(d) the names of the States and the amount asked for in cases where the request was not acceded to; and

(e) the names of the States and the amount in cases where the request is still pending?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Ten State Governments have so far approached the Planning Commission for financial assistance in connection with the implementation of their schemes for nationalisation of road transport services in their respective States.

(b) The financial resources of the State and the fact whether the scheme for which financial assistance is sought figures in the Five Year Plan are generally taken into consideration while dealing with such requests

(c) to (e). A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 65.]

रेलवे कर्मचारियों के लिये मकान

७४२. श्री जांगड़े : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह सच है कि बिलासपुर के बहुत से रेलवे कर्मचारियों को अब तक रहने के लिये मकान नहीं दिये गये हैं, यद्यपि रेलवे बस्ती में बहुत से मकान खाली पड़े हुए हैं ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): No, Sir. Houses on completion are allotted to staff in accordance with the established procedure.

FLOODS IN N.E.F.A.

**743. { Shri Rishang Keishing:
Shri Gohain:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the areas affected by the recent floods in the North East Frontier Agency;

(b) the extent of losses; and

(c) the relief given by Government to the flood-affected people?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Reports so far received indicate that there was flooding in the plains areas in Tezu, foothills camp area and Machukha.

(b) Seven roads, four paths and tracts were breached in different parts of the Agency. Damage to roads, tracts and bridges is estimated at Rs. 29.25 lakhs. It has not been possible so far to make a precise estimate of loss to crops. Loss of life—2.

(c) The following relief has been afforded so far:—

(1) Machukha (Siang Frontier Division)—200 mds. of rice.

(2) Lekang (Lohit Frontier Division)—Rs. 7428.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETY

744. Shri P. Subba Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the amount realized by the ex-East Punjab Railway by way of recovery from staff who had taken loan from the ex-North Western Railway Employees Co-operative Credit Society before partition and how it is utilised;

(b) whether Government propose to utilise the amount in giving interim relief to those who had Saving Bank Accounts with the said Society; and

(c) whether any effort has been made with the Pakistan Government to settle the affairs of the Society?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Rs. 1,89,446 and is kept under the 'Deposit' head.

(b) The disposal of the amount is not legally advisable.

(c) An agreement has been reached with the Government of Pakistan that Claims against and on behalf of the Society may be processed through the Central Claims Organisation in both countries. Detailed instructions will

issue after the procedure for registration and verification of claims has been agreed to by both Governments.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES OPTING FOR PAKISTAN

745. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given by the Deputy Minister of Railways on Demands for Grants (Railways) on the 8th March, 1954, and state:

(a) the number of employees reinstated out of 760 employees who originally opted for Pakistan; and

(b) when a final decision is likely to be reached in other cases?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). In accordance with the decision of Government, Pakistan final optees are not eligible for re-entertainment in service. But certain cases have been considered individually and 23 persons have been re-employed, and the cases of a few others are still under consideration.

भारत में पहाड़ी स्टेशन

७४६. श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय भारत में कौन कौन रेलवे स्टेशनों को पहाड़ी स्टेशन माना जाता है; और

(ख) इस श्रेणी में गिने जाने से उनको क्या विशेष सुविधायें दी जाती हैं ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The following stations are considered as hill stations for purposes of granting travel concessions: Simla, Solan, Dharampore, Dehra Dun, Pathankot, Kathgodam, Ootacamund, Kodaikanal Road (for going to Kodaikanal), Abu Road (for Abu), Coonoor, Darjeeling, Kurseong, Shillong (Railway Out-Agency), Pipariya, Kotagiri (Railway Out-Agency) and Srinagar (Railway Out-Agency).