

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 (Slang 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).