

the representatives and the Postal Divisions they represent; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) There is no single Advisory Committee for Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones conjointly for each State but there are separate Committees for P. & T. in each Circle, viz. the Regional P. & T. Advisory Committee and the Telephone Advisory Committee. There are two such Committees functioning in Orissa Circle.

(b) The representation on these Committees is not based on Postal Divisions but is for the Circle as a whole. These represent the State Government, Trade and Commercial interests and Members of Parliament.

(c) In view of what has been stated against (b) above, the question does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

NEW ROADS

616. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land requisitioned so far in Dharwanagar for opening a new road;

(b) the number of families who have already been given compensation; and

(c) the number of those who have still to get compensation?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha in due course.

GUINEA-WORM DISEASE

617. { Shri Bheekha Bhai:
 { Shri P. L. Barupal:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons suffering from guinea-worm in various States;

(b) the names of the States which are seriously affected; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent the spread of this disease?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Information asked for is not available. A statement showing the number of persons treated for guinea-worm infection in the hospitals and dispensaries of various States from whom information has been received is, however, laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 19.]

(b) The disease is prevalent in the States of Bombay, Madras, Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Orissa, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Hyderabad, and Coorg.

(c) Prevention and control of diseases are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The role of the Central Government is to assist and advise the State Governments and also to promote research. Researches on the evaluation of new remedies in the treatment of guinea-worm were undertaken in Rajasthan under a grant from the Indian Council of Medical Research in 1953. A report on the results obtained is awaited.

The Central Institute of Research in the Indigenous Systems of Medicine, Jamnagar, proposes to undertake, in the very near future, an investigation on guinea-worm in collaboration with the Director, Ayurveda, Saurashtra. Certain medicines which are stated to be of value in the treatment of guinea-worm will also be tested.

The National Water Supply and Sanitation Schemes in rural and urban areas which are being implemented by the State Governments with Central assistance will greatly help to reduce the incidence of this disease.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

618. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the stations where

Compensatory and Hill Allowances are paid to the Railway employees of the different grades on the Northern Railway (Kangra Valley Section); and

(b) the main factors taken into consideration while granting these allowances?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). There are only two Railway stations namely Jogindarnagar and Palampur, Punjab at which a compensatory allowance has been sanctioned with effect from 15th April 1954 the date when the line has been re-opened for traffic.

This allowance has been sanctioned on the consideration that a similar concession is admissible to other Central Government servants similarly stationed.

PASSENGER AMENITIES

619. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of waiting-rooms, cloak-rooms and goods sheds constructed in the stations in Orissa on the Eastern Railway, during the period from May, 1952 to the end of October, 1954;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some important Railway Stations in Orissa do not have such facilities causing thereby considerable inconvenience to passengers; and

(c) if so, the time by which all such stations will be provided with waiting-rooms, cloak-rooms and goods-sheds?

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

| | Waiting Halls | Waiting Rooms | Cloak Rooms | Goods Sheds |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1952-53 | 15 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 1953-54 | 3 | 1 | Nil | 1 |
| 1954-55 (up to 31-10-54) | — | 3 | Nil | Nil |

(b) Yes, Sir. Any deficiency in respect of these amenities is progressively made up in consultation with the

Passenger Amenities Committee. Similar action is also taken in respect of Goods Sheds by the Railway Administration.

(c) It is not possible to indicate, for this depends upon the availability of the required funds and materials for providing the necessary amenities at all deficient stations.

PASSENGER AMENITIES

620. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the Railway Stations on the Eastern Railway in the State of Orissa do not have *Pani Pande* (water supplier) for supplying water to passengers;

(b) if so, the names of the stations in the State not having *Pani Pander* and

(c) whether Government propose to make some arrangement in this regard on every Railway Station at least for the summer season; and

(d) if so, when the proposal is going to be given effect to?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No. There are permanent watermen throughout the year at 37 stations in Orissa. Temporary watermen were also posted at 48 stations during the last hot weather.

(b) The stations at which no watermen worked even during the summer were 53. Their names are as follows:—

1. Loknath Road.
2. Basta.
3. Haldipada.
4. Khantapara.
5. Bahanaga Bazar.
6. Markona.
7. Bandpur.
8. Manjuri Road.
9. Balikuda.
10. Mancheswar.
11. Retang.