

SEISMO (1A11)

671. Sardar Hukam Singh: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Seismographs are installed in any of the States in the country; and

(b) whether any Seismograph is proposed to be installed near **Bhakra Dam**?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement showing the location of Seismographs in the various States in the country is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 68.]

(b) Yes, Sir.

RESEARCH SCHEMES ON CASHEW NUTS

672. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any aid by way of grants or loans have been given for research schemes on cashewnuts sanctioned by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Governments of Travancore Cochin, Madras and Bombay have not fulfilled their financial obligations so far, with the result that the schemes have not started functioning yet; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to make these schemes work?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Grants have been given for research schemes on cashewnut in Madras, Travancore-Cochin and Bombay States.

(b) The schemes are functioning in Madras and Travancore-Cochin. The Bombay Government could not take up the work owing to financial stringency.

(c) The results of work conducted at the two stations at Madras and Travancore-Cochin, which are the most important cashewnut growing States,

will be available to the Bombay State also.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN PUNJAB

673. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of *ex-Service-men* registered in the Employment Exchanges in the Punjab during the last three years; and

(b) the number of persons who secured employment through the Exchanges during the above period?

The Minister of Labour (Shri K. K. Desai): (a) 46,211 *ex-Servicemen* were registered at Exchanges in the Punjab during the period from October, 1951 to September, 1954.

(b) The number of *ex-Servicemen* who secured employment through the Exchanges was 7,093.

CATERING ON RAILWAYS

674. Shri S. C. Singhal: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the terms on which catering contracts are given on Railway Stations and the income derived from such contracts so far during 1954; and

(b) the number of catering contractors who have been punished for breach of contracts and what action has been taken against them during the past three years?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Contracts are given for a fixed period and are renewable from time to time for approved services. Contractors are required to sell articles of good quality at controlled prices fixed by the Administration; and are forbidden to assign, mortgage or sublet the whole or any part of their contracts. The licence fee for the year 1953-54 was approximately Rs. 27,00,000.

(b) The number of contractors who were punished during the last three years was 2610, the punishment of