

and pamphlets by the State Governments to educate and convince the cultivators of the manurial value of dung.

(2) Financial assistance was being given to the State Governments from 1944-45 to 1950-51 for encouraging the preparation of compost manure in rural areas from materials which consist mainly of cow-dung.

(3) Plantation of quick growing fuel trees in rural areas for increasing fuel resources of the country.

(4) Trials are being conducted for the production of combustible gas from cow-dung and other organic wastes. On the basis of these trials a cheap and efficient model of gas plant suitable for villages has been designed for adoption on a large scale.

#### RAILWAY COACHES

182. **Shri Madhao Reddi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of coaches manufactured in the country during the period from the 1st April to the 30th September, 1954;

(b) the names of the factories manufacturing Railway Coaches and their annual production capacity;

(c) the total number of coaches imported during the same period;

(d) whether import of passenger coaches in recent years is on the increase; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to increase the indigenous production?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) 392 Coaches.

(b) A statement giving the information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 60.]

(c) 58 unfurnished coaches.

(d) There is a temporary increase in deliveries from old orders. A Statement of orders placed during the past 5 years is placed on the

Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 61.]

(e) Steps have already been taken to expand production in Railway Workshops and through contract. The Integral Coach Factory will start production in 1955.

#### IMPORT OF AIRCRAFT

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

(a) the number, type and capacity of new aircraft imported for the two Air Corporations in 1954; and

(b) the cost of these aircraft?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The Indian Airlines Corporation did not import any aircraft in 1954. The All India International Corporation imported two Lockheed Super Constellation aircraft, type 1049-C in 1954. These aircraft, which have been converted to joint Standard and Tourist configuration, can carry up to 71 passengers, (40 Tourist and 31 Standard) in addition to cargo and mails.

(b) The cost of the two aircraft imported by the Air India International Corporation with spare engines, power plants and other parts was approximately Rs. 304 lakhs.

#### RAILWAY PORTERS

184. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the various amenities provided to the licensed railway porters on the Indian Railways?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** The licensed railway porters working on the Indian Railways are generally given 2 sets of uniforms per year consisting of 2 shirts. They are also given free out-door medical treatment at Railway Hospitals and dispensaries. Badges and buckles are also supplied to them against a small refundable security deposit.

They are required to pay a small licence fee which is worked on a "no profit no loss" basis, and is intended to cover the cost of uniforms supplied and the cost of supervisory staff that may be appointed.

They enjoy security of tenure as long as their work is satisfactory.

They are also paid reasonable remuneration for any railway work they are required to undertake.

The foregoing is the general position that prevails, with the exception of certain stations at which the decasualisation scheme has not yet been implemented.

#### RADIOPHONE SERVICE

185. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places where radio-phone service has been introduced; and

(b) by what time Government expect to introduce this system in big cities of the country?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (**Shri Raj Bahadur**): (a) 43.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

#### CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME

186. **Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of doctors including lady doctors who have been appointed under the Contributory Health Scheme in each of the Centres;

(b) the number of other staff, i.e. compounders, nurses, peons etc;

(c) whether the present staff is sufficient to cope with the requirements of the patients;

(d) whether the old system of reimbursement is still in force; and

(e) if so, to what section or class of employees it is applicable?

The Minister of Health (**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur**): (a) and (b). A statement showing the information required is placed on the table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 62.]

(c) For the present, yes.

(d) and (e). The old system of reimbursement is applicable to all Central Government servants who reside outside the limits of the New Delhi Municipal Committee, the Delhi Municipal Committee, the Notified Area Committee, Civil Station, Southern New Delhi, Fort and Delhi Cantonment.

#### DIESEL RAIL-CARS

187. **Shri Gidwan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 1088 asked on the 17th September, 1954 and state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Diesel rail-cars on metre-gauge Sections of Railways other than Northern Railway;

(b) if so, which are those Sections;

(c) by what time this proposal will materialise; and

(d) the amount sanctioned for this purpose during 1954-55?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (**Shri Alagesan**): (a) Yes, on the Southern Railway.

(b) Trichinopoly—Lalgudi.

Trichinopoly — Pudukottah—Karakudi, and Trichinopoly-Mayavaram, Sections.

(c) Sometime in December, 1954.

(d) Rs. 37,20,000 has been sanctioned for expenditure on 24 metre gauge rail cars.

#### GODOWNS

188. **Shri Magan Lal Bagdi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted for the construction of Food Reserve Godowns under the Five Year Plan.