

river. The late running of No. 334 Down was mainly due to the late arrival of the connecting train at the starting station, excessive pulling of alarm chain and temporary engineering restrictions due to heavy floods.

(b) Punctuality 'drives' have been instituted on all the Railways which will be continued and intensified till the position improves appreciably. Special supervision is being arranged to reduce all avoidable detention and senior supervisory officials have been specially instructed to watch the running of these trains.

CONFERENCE ON RICE

318. **Shri V. Missir:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to hold any conference in the near future to consider the rice problem in this country;

(b) if so, whether any date has been fixed for this purpose; and

(c) what main items are on the agenda of the meeting?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

PASSENGER AMENITIES

319. **Pandit S. C. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new waiting rooms and waiting halls constructed on different stations of the Northern Railway, year-wise, during the years 1952-53, 1953-54 and 1954-55 (till the 30th September); and

(b) the number among them which are for third class passengers?

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

	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55.
(a)	23	17	8
(b)	18	15	8

गाड़ियों के चलने में देरी

२२०. श्री राधे लाल ग्वास : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उज्जैन से भोपाल जाने वाली यात्री गाड़ियां इस वर्ष १ जनवरी से २१ अक्टूबर, १९५४ तक कितने दिन नियत समय के बाध पड़ुचीं तथा आसत देरी कितनी रही ; और

(ख) भोपाल से दिल्ली जाने वाली यात्री गाड़ियों से जिनसे कि उज्जैन-भोपाल चलने वाली गाड़ियों का मेल रखा गया है, उनमें से इस अवधि में किन किन गाड़ियों का कितनी बार भोपाल में मेल न हो सका ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेश्वर):
(क) १ जनवरी और २१ अक्टूबर १९५४ के बीच ५०२ अप और १०६ अप सवारी गाड़ियां भोपाल में क्रमशः १६० और १५२ बार देरी से पड़ुचीं, उनके विलम्ब से पड़ुचने के आसत घण्टा क्रमशः एक घण्टा और ४५ मिनट थे ।

(ख) सम्बन्धित गाड़ियां ५०२ अप उज्जैन-भोपाल और १०६ अप रतलाम-उज्जैन-भोपाल सवारी गाड़ियां हैं । इन दिनों के बीच ५०२ अप भोपाल में दिल्ली जाने वाली १ डाउन पंजाब मेल से १५६ बार मिलान न कर सकी और १०६ अप २ डाउन पठानकोट एक्सप्रेस से १५४ बार मेल नहीं हो सकी ।

इन दोनों गाड़ियों पर समय की पाबन्दी रखी जा रही है और जब तक स्थिति में पर्याप्त सुधार नहीं होता इसे जारी रखा जायगा । क्षेत्रीय और प्रधान कार्यालयों से इन गाड़ियों पर प्रतिदिन निगरानी की जा रही है और जिन कर्मचारियों की असाधधानी से इन गाड़ियों के समय की पाबन्दी पर प्रभाव पड़ता है उनके विरुद्ध तुरन्त कार्यवाही की जाती है ।

DELIVERY OF MAILS IN TRIPURA

321. **Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint has been received by Government regarding the inordinate delay in the despatch of registered parcels to Tripura from Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that weekly magazines take about a month to reach there; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to obviate such delays?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes. Only two complaints were received of delay to mails which was due to dislocation caused by floods.

(b) Reply is in the negative.

(c) Does not arise.

TRIPURA MEDICAL SERVICE

322. Shri Biren Dutt: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two M.B.B.S. doctors belonging to Scheduled Tribes of Tripura, who were trained with the aid of Government have been refused employment in the State service of Tripura; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

TOURISTS TO AGRA

323. Seth Achal Singh: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Tourist Information Office that has been opened in Agra;

(b) the nature of the publicity and propaganda work that is being done by this office to attract more tourists to Agra;

(c) what facilities are provided to the tourists by this office; and

(d) the number of tourists who visited Agra during the last year and this year up to the 31st October, 1954?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (c). The functions of the Tourist Information Office, Agra include the following:

(i) To compile up-to-date information required for the tourists, such as details of

accommodation available with hotels, rates, road routes and conditions, rail, air and bus time-tables and fares, informative notes on places of tourist interest;

(ii) To give information required by tourists, make itineraries etc;

(iii) To give any assistance required by tourists in the nature of obtaining permits, etc; in cases of difficulty help them in getting rail and hotel reservations, make arrangements for transport, provide guide service;

(iv) To keep in touch with local rail authorities, hotels and other Government offices with a view to develop tourist traffic and giving all possible assistance to tourists;

(v) To bring to the notice of the Government of India or the local authorities complaints regarding lack of amenities, etc. which cannot be settled on the spot.

(b) Distribution and sale of tourist literature, supervision and display of folders and posters at various hotels, clubs, cultural institutions, arranging of film shows etc.

(d) The number of tourists who visited Agra during the year 1953 was estimated at roughly ... 9,645

During 1954 upto 31-10-54 ... 11,418

(Note): The above figures were collected from a few hotels and dak bungalows and do not take into account the tourists who do not spend the night.

RICE STOCKS

324. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the quantity of rice in stock at present?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): On 6th November Government had about 14.5 lakh tons of rice in their stocks.