

(ख) लगभग ६.४० लाख रुपये ।

#### GHAT SERVICES

\*951. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift Dighaghat (N.E. Railway) from its present site to Bansghat for the convenience of passengers; and

(b) the extra cost met by Government during the last two months in transporting goods from Dighaghat Station to the Jetty?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) No extra cost has been incurred.

#### FOOT-BOARD TRAVEL

\*952. **Shri Sarangadhar Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to prevent foot-board travelling on the Railways;

(b) whether Government are aware that in foreign countries the design of the carriages is such as to make foot-board travels impossible; and

(c) if so, whether any proposal to modify the design of present carriages of Indian Railways is under the consideration of Government?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Yes. Warning through loudspeakers, notices etc. and prosecution of foot-board travellers are undertaken.

(b) Government are aware that in some foreign countries the design of the carriages is such that the travel on foot-board is not possible.

(c) Yes.

#### IMPORT OF SUGAR

\*953. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 66 on the 23rd

February, 1955 and state the reasons for importing sugar through foreign firms during 1953-54?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** The reason was that the price offered by the foreign firms was the lowest at the time for an acceptable quality of sugar and for the shipment period required.

#### PINEAPPLE INDUSTRY IN TRIPURA

\*954. **Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the estimated loss involved in the wastage of pineapples in Tripura in the years 1952 to 1954?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** No information is available with the State Government.

#### MICA MINES IN KODARMA

246. **Shri P. C. Bose:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Mica Mines in Kodarma remained closed during the second week of January, 1955 on account of short supply of explosives;

(b) if so, the causes of the short supply of explosives;

(c) the number of workers who were forced to remain unemployed on this account; and

(d) the arrangement made for payment of wages to them for this forced idleness?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai):** (a) As far as I am aware, No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

#### SCHEDULED CASTES

247. **Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Scheduled Castes have not been given proper representation in the Post and Telegraph Motor Services, Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) Yes, there is a shortage of Scheduled Caste candidates in the Post and Telegraph Mail Motor Services, Calcutta.

(b) The matter is under investigation. In the meanwhile, prompt action is being taken to ensure that the shortage is made good.

#### MAIL VANS

**248. Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the amount spent on body-building of mail vans during the years 1947—50 in the West Bengal Circle and the corresponding amount in the year 1954-55?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** Two statements are attached [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 12.] Statement I gives the cost of bodies of mail vans built during 1947—50 and statement II gives the cost of body built during 1954-55.

#### BIKANER RAILWAY STATION

**249. Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is any proposal for the remodelling of the Bikaner Railway Station with a view to meeting the growing demands of the travelling public in particular those of especially the retiring, cloak and refreshment rooms etc.?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** Yes Sir; proposals for extension of the Bikaner Railway Station with a view to provide retiring rooms, better cloak rooms, better waiting rooms and refreshment rooms are being examined.

#### INLAND WATER TRANSPORT

**250. Shri Anirudha Sinha:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 515 on the 6th September, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the arrangements to provide inland water transport in the 703 L.S.D.

Upper Ganga from Patna to Allahabad have since been completed; and

(b) if so, when the transport will begin to operate?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). The designs for the craft have been finalised and tenders for their construction will be invited shortly. The project will be put into operation as soon as the craft become available.

#### CHITTORGARH RAILWAY STATION

**251. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is very little accommodation in upper class waiting rooms at Chittorgarh;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct new spacious halls there; and

(c) if so, when the construction will be taken in hand?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a). The accommodation for Upper Class passengers at Chittorgarh is an Upper Class Waiting Room 16' x 14' which is considered adequate for the limited upper class traffic of about six passengers per day. In addition there are 2 retiring rooms also available for passengers at this station.

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

#### SHIFTING OF WORKSHOPS FROM UDAIPUR

**252. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that loco and carriage shops at Udaipur are being shifted to some other place;

(b) if so, the place to which they will be shifted; and

(c) how many persons will be transferred thereby?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) No, Sir.