

Railway Earnings

412. Shri B.C. Das : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the extra expenditure incurred by the Railways to provide special facilities for (i) the All India Congress Committee meeting held at Berhampur (Ganjam) in the second week of May, 1955 (ii) Sarvodaya Conference held at Puri in March, 1955 (iii) the All India Primary Teachers' Conference held at Puri in March, 1955 (iv) the recent Rathayatra festival at Puri ; and

(b) the number of inward and outward passengers on each of the occasions?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) Particulars of the extra expenditure incurred are given below :

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| (i) All India Congress Committee at Berhampur. | Rs. 22,463/4 - |
| (ii) Sarvodaya Conference at Puri. | Rs. 4,169/6/- |
| (iii) All India Primary Teachers Conference at Puri. | Rs. 652/4/- |
| (iv) Rathayatra Festival at Puri. | Rs. 5,449/4/- |

(b) It is regretted that no reliable figures are available separately for each of these occasions.

Aurang Nagar Railway Station

413. Sardar Iqbal Singh : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to shift Aurang Nagar station to Malikpur on the Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) Aurang Nagar Train halt has already been shifted on 31-5-55 from mile 68/5 to mile 69/18.

(b) The inhabitants of Malikpur and surrounding villages proposed the shifting of the Train halt. Investigation into the proposal revealed that the old site of the halt had become sparsely populated after the partition. Also, the proposal was recommended by the local civil authorities.

Employment Exchange at Agra

414. Seth Achal Singh : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) the number of men registered at the Agra Employment Exchange during the year 1954-55;

(b) the number of them provided with employment;

(c) whether it is a fact that persons who had been registered years before are not being provided with employment, whereas those registered afterwards are considered for employment; and

(d) the estimated annual expenditure on the Agra Employment Exchange?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) : (a) 28,192.

(b) 2,135. |

(c) Qualifications being equal, those who are registered earlier are submitted first, when, however, those who have registered early do not possess the required qualifications, others who have come after them have to be submitted in compliance with the employers' requirements.

(d) The expenditure during 1954-55 was Rs. 64,500/-.

Rise in Food Prices in Bihar

415. Pandit D.N. Tiwary : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been steep rise in the prices of food-grains in Bihar and specially in North Bihar since June, 1955;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A.P. Jain) : (a) No Sir. There has not been any steep rise in prices of food-grains in Bihar, though there has been the usual seasonal hardening of prices.

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

Railway School, Lallaguda

416. Shri P. Ramaswamy : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in regard to the construction of a pucca building for the Railway High School at Lallaguda, Secunderabad; and