

[Shri Alagesan]

	1955	1954
*Under Police investigation	14	8
Not established	5	46
Acquitted	4	20
Under trial	25	
TOTAL	48	74

Unauthorised Radio Sets

204. Shri S. K. Razmi: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of cases of possession of radio-sets without licence detected during the current year as far as information is available?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): 8638 from 1st January, 1955 to 30th June, 1955.

N.E. Railway

205. Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal under consideration for running any new trains on the main line of North Eastern Railway, under the Second Five Year Plan?

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

National Highways

206. Shri Ibrahim: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the length of National Highways proposed to be constructed and developed during the Second Five Year Plan period in Bihar and the portion thereof in Ranchi District; and

(b) the estimated cost of construction per mile of these roads by using either brick gitti or stone pieces?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The detailed programme for the development of National Highways under the Second Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised. According to the proposals under consideration the length of the sections proposed to be constructed and developed in Bihar is as follows:

New lengths to be constructed. 325 miles (of which 45 miles will be in Ranchi District).

Existing Roads to be developed. 285 miles (of which 5 miles will be in Ranchi District).

(b) The cost of construction of a road depends on several factors such as location, nature of soil, specification, width of the carriageway, cross drainage works

etc. It is therefore difficult to indicate any average rate which will apply to the whole of Bihar. If, for purposes of comparison any particular District is taken, say, the Muzaffarpur District, the average cost of construction per mile of road having a single lane-black topped carriageway in that District is Rs. 1,12,000, if brick gitti is used and Rs. 1,25,000 if stone metal is used.

Telegraph Messages

207. Shri Ibrahim: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of cases in which telegraphic messages were conveyed to the addressee after 72 hours under the normal pressure of work, during the period the 1st July to the 31st October, 1955 (State-wise)?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): It is regretted that the required information is not available since these particulars are not normally maintained. Its collection from nearly 5000 telegraph offices in India would involve considerable clerical labour and time. Furthermore, drafts for the month of July and August are not available and have since been destroyed in keeping with the existing rules.

P. & T. Department

208. Shri Ibrahim: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the amount of loss suffered by the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department during 1954-55 as compared to 1947-48 under each of the following heads:—

(i) non-payment of trunk calls by subscribers;

(ii) compensation paid to public for loss of insured articles and money orders; and

(iii) misappropriation of funds by postal employees?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

	1947-48	1954-55
	Rs.	Rs.
(i)	755	15,200
(ii) (a) compensation for insured articles	65,423 (approx.)	168,212 (approx.)
(b) Loss on account of M.O. frauds	28,983 (approx.)	113,168 (approx.)

(No compensation is paid for loss of a money order but a duplicate Money Order issued).

(iii) Ra. 83,900 Rs. 6,15,300