

(iii) Swift and deterrent disciplinary action against staff for avoidable delays.

(iv) Punctuality drives impressing upon staff the importance and necessity of punctual running.

(v) Increase in the margin between the arrival of No. 1 BDS at Hissar and the departure of No. 3 LJH for Ludhiana from 17 minutes to 26 minutes to take effect from 1-4-56.

There is already some improvement in the performance of the train during the period 1st to 20th February, 1956.

#### DOUBLE RAILWAY TRACKS

**330. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the mileage of Double Railway tracks Zone-wise?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** The information is available in Column 6 of statement 8 of the Report by the Railway Board on Indian Railways for 1954-55—Vol. II Statistics, for the period ending 31st March 1955. A Copy of this publication is available in the Library of the House.

#### DEPARTMENTAL CATERING ON RAILWAYS

**331. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the menus and the rate of each item of the menus on regional tastes fixed for hamper boxes?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** There is no fixed menu for the Hamper Boxes. Items that are put into the Hamper Boxes vary from day to day, depending on *a-la-carte* dishes available. The price of the several *a-la-carte* items is given in the statement attached. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 65.] The Hamper Box is charged at the total cost of the items put in it plus four annas for packing and service.

#### TELEPHONE LINKS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES

**332. Shri Ibrahim:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of countries with which India have got direct telephone service; and

(b) the names of those countries?

**The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 66.]

#### ROAD DEVELOPMENT

**333. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the amount spent by the Government of India during 1955-56 over the (i) construction of new roads (ii) development and maintenance of old ones?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** Construction of new roads and development of old ones are grouped under one head of account and maintenance of existing roads under another. The estimated expenditure under the two heads of account during 1955-56 is as under:—

Estimated Expenditure  
Rs. Lakhs.

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| (i) Construction and development of roads .. | 2227-92 |
| (ii) Maintenance of existing roads ..        | 490-00  |

#### ROAD TRANSPORT WORKERS

**334. Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the resolutions passed at the First All-India Conference of the Road Transport workers held at Amravati from 25th to 27th November, 1955; and

(b) if so, the decisions or reaction of Government on them?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These resolutions run into several pages and raise numerous issues of major policy. Some of the resolutions concern matters which are in the State field and some concern