

(a) the number of Boards of Trustees constituted in the country under the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952;

(b) the number of Boards of Trustees in Madhya Pradesh and the names of the personnel; and

(c) the number of meetings held by the Board of Trustees from 1952 to 1955?

Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) one, namely the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund, constituted on the 31st October, 1952.

(b) (i) Nil.

(ii) Does not arise.

(c) Six.

SCRAP TELEGRAPH WIRES

1041. Shri K. R. Sharma: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether used up and unserviceable telegraph wire is got flattered with a view to its disposal as scrap copper; and

(b) whether a suggestion has been made to Government that instead of flattering the wire its gauge may be changed which will fetch a better price in the market?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

(a) Yes. This is done in order to meet the provisions of the Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1950.

(b) Yes. But the parties could not either draw wire according to departmental specifications, or meet the essential conditions of the contract.

SUGAR MILLS

1042. Shri Boḍvaraghasamy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the Sabha showing:

(a) the number of sugar mills in India at present, State-wise;

(b) whether these mills are private-owned or owned by Government;

(c) whether any mill is being run by Government; and

(d) the number of mills that were started after the Independence?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 51].

LEPROSY IN TRIPURA

1043. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether any list of lepers with their full address has been supplied recently to the Health Directorate, Tripura by Tripura Rajya Santi Sena;

(b) the action taken so far in the matter; and

(c) the immediate and effective measures Government propose to undertake to fight against Leprosy in Tripura?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) In order to educate the public regarding infection, spread of leprosy and how to control it, the Health Directorate, Tripura, has issued a leaflet which is being widely circulated.

(c) It is proposed to open a Leprosy Clinic at the V. M. Hospital at Agartala. It is also proposed to conduct a survey of the incidence of leprosy in the State.

T. T. ES. ON CENTRAL RAILWAY

1044. Mulla Abdullahai: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of ticket collectors and travelling ticket examiners working on the Central Railway; and