

(d) the number directly recruited in each category ; and

(e) the number of scheduled castes as class 1, 2, 3 and 4 officials separately ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khan-dubhai Desai) :

(a) Class I	..	10
Class II	..	62
Class III	..	1,244
Class IV	..	409
(b) Class I	..	6
Class II	..	62
Class III	..	Nil
Class IV	..	Nil
(c) Class I	..	1
Class II	..	1
(d) Class I	..	4
	(Principal Officers)	
Class II	..	Nil
Class III	..	1,244
Class IV	..	409
(e) Class I	..	Nil
Class II	..	Nil
Class III	..	83
Class IV	..	58

LOCUST CONTROL

2313. Shri Ram Krishan : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the price of each Beavers type Aircraft intended for the locust control operations ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) : The price of each Beaver aircraft with special agricultural equipment is about 72,832 Canadian dollars or approximately Rs. 3-64 lakhs. Two aircrafts of this type are being obtained from the Government of Canada under the Colombo Plan.

MANGO FRUIT

2314. Shri Shree Narayan Das : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the prospect of mango fruit in various parts of the country this year ;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to hailstorms the prospect of this crop has been blighted ; and

(c) if so, the nature and extent of damage caused ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected from the State Governments and will be placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as it is received.

BRIDGES IN TRIPURA

2315. Shri Biren Dutt : Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the number of temporary bridges on roads to Kurti in Tripura ;

(b) the amount so far spent on the repair of these bridges from the date motor vehicles have started plying over them ; and

(c) when permanent bridges are expected to be constructed in place of these temporary bridges ?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) : (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 52.]

(c) No forecast is possible at this stage.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

2316. Shri H. N. Mukerjee : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to memoranda submitted to Government by the staff of Sakrigalighat (Eastern Railway) in May and September, 1955 ;

(b) whether he is aware that promises made by the Government in Parliament is September, 1954 regarding provision of certain essential amenities in Sakrigalighat remain in the main unimplemented ; and

(c) whether an early decision will be taken in the matter ?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). This is not correct. Action has been taken where necessary in many cases and the rest are being expedited.

POSTAL FACILITIES FOR BACKWARD AREAS

2317. Shri Bheekha Bhai: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that preference is given in the matter of extending postal and telephone facilities to backward areas, specially Scheduled areas; and

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that some backward areas in Rajasthan have not been provided with postal and telephone facilities ?

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

(a) Yes, the permissible limit of loss for opening new post offices in areas scheduled as very backward for provision of Postal facilities has been raised to Rs. 1,000 per post office per year as against the normal limit of Rs. 750 per annum for post office in villages or groups of villages having a population of 2,000 or more.

Regarding telephone facilities no preference is given except in the case of District Headquarters or Sub-Divisional Towns.

(b) All Backward areas of Rajasthan are being provided with post offices and there are no outstanding demands from local authorities who are usually consulted in regard to extension of postal facilities in such areas. There is, however, scope for opening more post offices in these areas and this will be done during the Second Five Year Plan period.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS

2318. Dr. Satyawadi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Railway employees involved in accidents while on duty and who have been declared

unable for any manual work during the year 1955 ;

(b) the number of employees who died as a result of such accidents ;

(c) the number of the injured or dead who have been paid suitable compensation ; and

(d) the total amount paid as compensation ?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) 210.

(b) 138.

(c) 10,510.

(d) Rs. 7,39,296-4-0.

NOTE: The above figures are exclusive of figures of the Eastern Railway which are being collected and will be separately placed on the Table of the House.

RAILWAY EARNINGS

2319. Sardar A. S. Saigal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) what is the average cash collection of a district for financial years 1952-53, 1953-54, 1954-55 and 1955-56 on Western and Central Zonal Railways ; and

(b) what percentage of it is the actual penalty charged *i.e.* how much of it is on account of ticketless travelling and what amount is towards excess freight charges for the above years ?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a)

	**Western Railway Rs.	**Central Railway Rs.
1952-53 .	2,11,120	3,16,511
1953-54 .	2,14,286	2,64,515
1954-55 .	2,46,401	2,44,862
1955-56 .	2,12,205	2,47,263

**The figures shown under these Railways represent the average annual cash collections made by the ticket checking staff in each District of Western Railway and each Division of Central Railway, there being 16 Districts on the former and 8 Divisions on the latter.