

Construction of a Bridge in Travancore-Cochin State

285. **Shri A. K. Gopalan** : Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any schemes to construct a bridge connecting the industrial town of Quilon (in Travancore-Cochin) and the Coir producing areas of Perinedi;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) when the work will commence and when it is expected to be over; and

(d) the estimated expenditure for construction of the bridge?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) and (b). The State Plan includes a Scheme for the construction of a high level bridge about 700 ft. long suitable for double line traffic.

(c) The work will be commenced during the current financial year and is expected to be completed before the end of the Second Five Year Plan period.

(d) About Rs. 12 lakhs.

Scheduled Tribes

286. { **Shri Rishang Keishing** ;
Shri Balmiki :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the figure of the Scheduled Tribes employed in the Indian Railway Service during the past four years of the First Five Year Plan;

(b) what percentage out of the reservation in the railway service for the scheduled tribes has been filled up; and

(c) whether any special effort is being made by the Government to fill up the reserved quotas?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No. 45].

(c) Yes.

Fans in Waiting Rooms

287. **Shri Rishang Keishing** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that in important railway stations in Assam as Bongaigaon, Luming, Manipur Road etc., railway offices and waiting rooms for the passengers are not provided with electric fans;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) the present arrangements in place of electric fans in those stations; and

(d) the arrangements proposed for the supply of electric fans at these stations?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) Electric fans are provided in the offices and waiting rooms at Bongaigaon, Luming, Manipur Road and at several other important stations in Assam where electric power is available.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At some stations where electric fans do not exist, pull *pankhas* have been provided.

(d) A number of additional stations are proposed to be electrified in the 2nd Five Year Plan period and fans will then be provided at such stations.

Homeopathic Pharmacopoea

288. **Shri S. C. Samanta** : Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2724 on the 28th May 1956 and state:

(a) the steps taken to prepare a Homeopathic Pharmacopoea in India;

(b) who has been entrusted with the work; and

(c) how long it will take to complete the work?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur) : (a) The matter is still under consideration.

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

Railway Parcels

289. **Shri S. C. Samanta** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 457 on the 19th March, 1956 and state the steps taken to quicken the despatch and delivery of parcels between Howrah and Contai Road Stations?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : An Organisation has been set up at the headquarters of the South Eastern Railway to specially watch the working of the arrangements for the clearance and movement of parcels traffic. As a result of this, improvement in the position regarding the movement of parcels *inter alia* between Howrah and Contai Road stations is expected.