

Level Crossings in the Punjab

57. **Shri D. C. Sharma** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to lay on the Table of the Sabha, the complete list of level crossings recommended by the Punjab Government for replacement by over/under bridges and state when these works will be taken up?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) A statement is attached. [See Appendix I annexure No26] The construction of road over bridge at mile 245/24-246 near Cheheru a station is to be taken in hand during the current financial year.

The construction of the remaining three bridges depends upon the acceptance by the Punjab Government of their share of cost of the work.

Reserved Posts on Railways

Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes in each of the Railways in 1956-57; and

(b) the actual number of vacancies filled by Scheduled Castes on each Railway so far?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Railway Porters

59. **Shri D. C. Sharma**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licensed porters on Northern Railway;

(b) the number of them who are not provided with any kind of uniform; and

(c) who is the immediate controlling or supervising authority over them?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 7,653.

(b) Information is under collection and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

(c) The Station Master and in some cases the licensed porters Supervisor appointed by the Railway, wherever porters are appointed direct by the railway administration.

Contractor or a Supervisor appointed by him, wherever the licensed porters are appointed by contractors.

Railway Stores Purchase

60. **Shri D. C. Sharma**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of stores purchased in foreign countries by the Indian Railways in 1956-57 so far; and

(b) the value of stores purchased in India during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The information is not available and can be furnished only after the close of the financial year 1956-57.

Ticketless Travel on Southern Railway

61. **Shri Veeraswamy**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ticketless travellers found on the Southern Railway during January to the end of October 1956;

(b) the amount collected from the ticketless travellers during the same period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railway authorities to prevent ticketless travel?

The Deputy Minister of Railway and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) *6,42,339.

| (b) <i>Railway fare</i> | <i>Penalty</i> |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Rs. | Rs. |
| *9,95,437-10-0 | *1,54,987-5-0 |

(c) (i) Checking the tickets of passengers entering and leaving stations, by posting of ticket collectors at larger stations, and deputing other staff at the smaller stations, for manning the gates.

(ii) Providing Travelling Ticket Examiners to work on allotted sections according to prescribed programmes, as well as to conduct occasionally surprise checks.

(iii) Frequent surprise checks by 'Flying Squads', including cross country checks by proceeding by road to points selected for these checks.

(iv) Periodical 'replacement checks' so as set the standard for performance of station Ticket Collectors and Travelling ticket Examiners; and

(v) Check, by Travelling Ticket Examining Staff in mufti in the suburban area of Madras.

*These figures are for the period from January to August, 1956. Figures for the months September and October, 1956 are not yet available.