Electrification of Rayagada Station

557. Shri Sanganna : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Ques-tion No. 1575 on the 30th August, 1956 in respect of the electrification of the Rayagada Railway Station in the South East Railway Zone and state :

(a) the stage where the matter stands; and

(b) whether the work is being carried out departmentally or otherwise?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) All materials have been indented for.

(b) The work is being carried out de-partmentally.

Foodgrain Godown at Nagpur

*558. Mulla Abdullabhai : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Regional Grain Godown will be kept at Nagpur; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard ?

The Minister of Food and Agri-culture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No. Nag-pur is not one of the centres selected for construction of foodgrain storage go-downs for the Central Reserve of foodgrains.

(b) Question does not arise.

Strike Threat by Dock Workers

*559. { Shri Kasliwal : Shri H. G. Vaishnav :

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether the negotiations for an amicable settlement of the dispute relating to demands of dock workers have broken down;

(b) whether the All-India Port and Dock Workers Federation has given notice of strike from the 1st December, 1956; and

(c) if so the steps Government propose to take in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) to (c). I am glad to inform the House that the negotiations have resulted in the withdrawal of the strike notice given by All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation.

Ramagundam-Nizamabad Rail Line

*560. {Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : Shri B. Y. Reddy :

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 2579 on the 28th May, and Starred Question No. 58 on the 17th July, 1956 and state :

(a) the specific reasons for the delay in the submission of Traffic Survey report of Ramagundam-Nizamabad Rail link;

(b) the steps that are being taken for the expeditious examination of the same; and

(c) whether there is any likelihood of taking up this rail link during the next year in view of the industrial and mineral development that is taking place near about Ramagundam?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Shahnawaz Khan): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 7].

(b) It can only arise after the report is received.

(c) Owing to reduced availability of funds in the Second Five Year Plan the chances of construction of this line in the near future are remote.

Janata Trains

*561. Shri Gidwani : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that JANAT trains are not popular in South India as stated by the General Manager, Southern Railway in a press conference recently; and

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a demand for upper class coaches in those trains?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes. 1

(b) Yes.

Community Development Programme

*562. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to consider the suggestions and recommend-ations made by Mr. M. L. Wilson, Ford Foundation Consultant in his report of a Survey of Community Programme in India, and Development

(b) if so, at what stage the matter stands?

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The Ministur of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Ministry are engaged in a continuous process of evaluating and reviewing the content and methodology of the Community Development Programme. They nave taken note of the contents and valuable suggestions and recommendations made by Mr. Wilson. Copies of the Report have been sent to the States. Important points in the Report will receive consideration at intra-State and inter-State Seminars, and will finally come up at the annual Development Commissioners' Conference. The Development Commissioners' Conference considers and makes recommendations on specific points arising throughout the year as a result of evaluation reports by the Programme Hvaluation Organisation, by sociological workers and others, as well as those arising out of experience of the working of the programme in the field. Decisions taken, after going through the democratic processes of exchange of ideas from the level of the village upwards, are then formalised into procedures for implementation during subsequent years.

Abolition of Metre-Gauge Lines

*563. { Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : Shri Anirudha Sinha : Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : Shri Bibhuti Mishra : Shri C. R. Iyyunni :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have outlined any programme for the gradual abolition of metre gauge lines in the country; and

(b) if so, whether any approximate time schedule has been drawn up?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) No, Sir.

b) Does not arise.

. Onions

*564. Shri Bishwa Nath Roy : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the annual production and consumption of onion in the country; and

(b) Government's policy for encouraging its export ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. jain) : (a) Being a non-forecast crop regular estimates of production of Onions are not framed in all States. The available information is, however, laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 8]. Statistics regarding consumption of onions are not available.

(b) Government allows exports of onions subject to considerations of internal prices.

Oilseeds Crushing Industry Enquiry Committee

*565. Shri Dabhi : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 483 on 30th July, 1956 and state :

(a) whether Government have since completed the examination of the recommendations of the Oilseeds Crushing Industry Enquiry Committee; and

(b) if so, what is their decision thereon?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) : (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

Buckingham Canal

*566. { Shri K. S. Rao : Shri M. Islamuddin :

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1799 on the 13th September, 1956, and state :

(a) whether the proposal to widen the Buckingham Canal with a view to make it navigable by motor launches has been finalised;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted; and

(c) the amount required for this purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagean) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Technical investigations by the Governments of Madras and Andhra are in progress,

(c) A sum of Rs. 42,000 has been sanctioned for the technical investigations. The actual cost of the project will be known only when the results of the technical investigations are available.