

Holidays for Commercial Clerks on Railways

1546. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gazetted holidays are not allowed to commercial clerks despite the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission; and

(b) if so, what compensation is awarded to them in lieu thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). Mr. Justice Rajadhyaksha whose Adjudication award was binding did not agree with the Central Pay Commission that if holidays are foregone in the interests of the service, the employees concerned should get compensatory leave in lieu but said that the grant of holidays has to be subject to the exigencies of service and without claim to compensation, if they are not granted.

Working Hours of Commercial Clerks on Railways

1547. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that commercial clerks have to work for ten hours a day in order to complete the work entrusted to them;

(b) whether this aspect of abnormally long duty hours was considered at the time of the New Deal; and

(c) if so, whether any preferential compensation was given to them?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (c). Commercial Clerks work according to the fixed rosters based on the classification under the Hours of Employment Regulations in shifts of 8-9 hours or 12 hours according to their classification as 'Continuous' or 'Essentially Intermittent' and for any work performed in abnormal circumstances beyond rostered hours, they are paid overtime allowance as per extant rules.

Roads and Bridges in Punjab

1548. { Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the amount proposed to be given as loans, subsidies or grants from the Central Road Fund for the construction of roads and bridges for the year 1957-58 to the Punjab Government;

(b) the amount that was asked for by the Punjab Government; and

(c) the names of the roads and bridges for which money is being given to the Punjab Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Rs. 46.25 lakhs.

(b) Rs. 55.52 lakhs.

(c) The matter has not been finalised.

Hindustan-Tibet Road

1549. { Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of surveys made and alignments undertaken for the construction of the Hindustan-Tibet Road during the past four years between Narkanda and Rampur Bushahar and the expenditure incurred on each one of them;

(b) whether it is a fact that earth and stone dug out of this road have blocked the Brow Road at Rampur Bushahar bridge and the Narkanda Lusi portion of the road which connects Mahaser District of Himachal Pradesh with Kulu sub-division of the Kangra District;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Brow Road and Lusi road are in a neglected condition;

(d) whether the Brow and Lusi roads will be repaired for through vehicular traffic to Kulu sub-division of the Kangra District; and

(e) if so, when?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a), (d) and (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha in due course.

(b) During the construction of Hindustan-Tibet Road about 200 ft. length of Brow Road got blocked at Rampur Bushahr due to debris but it has been restored. The bridle road from Narkanda Luri connecting Kulu has been restored for animal traffic.

(c) No. The roads are reported to be in a reasonably fair condition.

Housing of Kharagpur Railway Workshop Employees

1550. Shri Subodh Hasda: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided housing facilities to all Class IV and Class III Staff of Kharagpur Railway workshop in South-Eastern Railway; and

(b) if not, what alternate steps have been taken for their accommodation?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) No.

(b) About 44 per cent. of permanent Class III and Class IV staff in this workshop have already been provided with railway quarters and provision has been made in the works programme during the Second Five Year Plan to build as many railway quarters as possible within the limitations of the funds available so as to house a larger percentage of staff. For staff living outside Kharagpur, workmen's special trains are run to enable them to attend to their work in time and reach their homes after their work is over.

Kharagpur Railway Workshop

1551. Shri Subodh Hasda: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to expand the Kharagpur Railway Workshop in South-Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to commence the work?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes.

(b) Some of the works in connection thereof have been sanctioned and are in progress. Others are under examination.

Telephone and Telegraph Lines in Assam

1552. Shri Lladhar Kotoki: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been frequent breakdown in the telephone and telegraph lines in the State of Assam both inside and with rest of India during the period from January, 1956 to July, 1957;

(b) whether telegrams had to be sent by the telegraph authorities by post due to breakdown in the telegraph system;

(c) the number of such cases where a telegram was sent by post during the period from January, 1956 to July, 1957;

(d) the number of telegrams and telephone calls which had been refused or cancelled due to the lines being out of order during the period from January, 1956 to July, 1957; and

(e) what steps have been taken to prevent these breakdowns and to ensure regular and steady service in the telegraph and telephone systems in Assam?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (e). A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 53].