

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): Bhagwani Lift Irrigation Scheme costing Rs. 19,500 was completed in 1956.

Nagchella Lift Irrigation Scheme costing Rs. 42,750 and one trial Boring costing Rs. 45,000 for tubewells at Paonta are in hand at present. Two more trial Borings costing Rs. 60,000 will start this year. No other Lift Irrigation Scheme has yet been finalized by the Himachal Pradesh Administration.

Dislocation of Simla-Kalka Rail Traffic

1570. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the tunnel between Summer Hill and Simla Station has been damaged and the whole traffic is suspended?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Yes, it is a fact that a portion of the tunnel between Summer Hill and Simla Station has been damaged. However, the whole traffic is not suspended. Passengers with their luggage and parcels are booked upto Summer Hill while goods traffic is booked only upto Tara Devi Station, as there are no terminal facilities on other stations beyond Tara Devi. The tunnel is expected to be repaired by 30th September, 1957 after which through traffic will be restored.

Scheduled Caste Employees in Radio Stores Department, New Delhi

1571. Shri Vishwanath Prasad: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the Scheduled Caste personnel employed as Store-keepers in the Radio Stores Department, New Delhi;

(b) whether the percentage is as required by quota;

(c) if not, the reason therefor; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take in this behalf in order to make up the required percentage?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) 5%.

(b) and (c). The number of posts of Store-keepers in the Civil Aviation Department being limited, the posts of Junior/Traffic/Store Clerks and Store-keepers have been grouped at present on an All-India basis for the purposes of communal representation and there is no separate quota for store-keepers in the Central Radio Stores Depot. In this group as a whole the percentage of Scheduled Caste-personnel is slightly in excess of the required quota.

(d) Does not arise.

Air Services in Nepal

1571-A. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the licence granted to Airlines Corporation by the Nepal Government to operate internal services there has been terminated;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether this is the result of an agreement reached between Nepal Government and the Indian authorities; and

(d) if so, the nature of the agreement and its important terms?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

World Merchant Marine Day

1572. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "World Merchant Marine Day" is being observed on the 13th October, 1957 and the Mayors of the most of the world's principal ports are participating in the 'Columbus' celebration at Geneva; and