

and delivery of the goods kept in the luggage vans to the passengers at the Central Station, Madras is un-organised and confusing; and

(b) the steps, if any, Government propose to take to improve the situation?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah nawas Khan): (a) and (b). Some confusion did exist sometime ago in the delivery of luggage from the luggage van of the Fully Air-conditioned Express train on arrival at Madras, due to the anxiety of the passengers to take delivery of the luggage immediately on arrival of the train. But arrangements have since been made to remove the luggage, immediately on arrival of the train, from the brake van to the luggage office nearby, from where delivery is effected in an orderly manner.

Development of Fisheries in Manipur

597. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the works taken up for development of fisheries in Manipur during the First Five Year Plan period and the amounts spent thereon; and

(b) the progress of work undertaken during the Second Five Year Plan for fisheries in Manipur?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The first Five Year Plan did not provide any funds for the purpose. No development work under any specific scheme as such could, therefore, be undertaken

(b) The progress of the various fisheries schemes is as under:

- (i) Fish fry (seed) of major Carps imported from Calcutta in July 1956 are rearing well at Fish Nursery Farm, Wangbal and have grown up as fingerlings. They are made available to the public for pisciculture.

(ii) Mirror Carp fingerlings brought from Uttar Pradesh are also growing well at the Wangbal Nursery Farm and will be propagated widely.

(iii) After completion of training in "Inland Fisheries" two Officers have been appointed as Fisheries Inspector and as Fish Farm Manager, Wangbal.

Telephone Connections in Manipur

598. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections allotted so far to private individuals, Government offices and residences of Government officers in Manipur;

(b) the number of applications made by residents of Imphal for new phone connections; and

(c) the number of applications pending disposal at present and when the required demands will be met?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) At present there are following connections in Imphal Exchange—

(i) Private connections	45
(ii) Government Office connections	34
(iii) Govt. Officers residential connections	17
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	96
Junction Circuits	3
	<hr/>
	Total 99

(b)	Applications received during 1956-57	
	Private	20
	Government	10
		<hr/>
	TOTAL	30
		<hr/>

(c) Number of applications pending now:

Private	38
Government	6
	—
TOTAL	44
	—

A second board of 50 lines capacity has recently been installed. Further connections will be given after laying of cables for which necessary action is being taken. The required demand is likely to be wiped out by 31-3-1958.

Railway Equipment Committee

599. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Railway Equipment Committee has been duly considered and scrutinised;

(b) if so, which of the recommendations of the Committee have been given topmost priority,

(c) whether private industrialists have come forward to help the Railways by manufacturing Railway stores indigenously,

(d) if so, to what extent, and

(e) whether Government propose to start factories of their own to manufacture remaining railways stores as recommended by the Committee?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Most of the recommendations have been implemented while the rest are under implementation.

(c) Yes.

(d) Their response for the indigenous manufacture of wagons and coaching under-frames has been adequate. For other items, individual items are being taken up and it is too early to make an appraisal.

(e) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

Purchase of Dakota

600. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Dakota plane was purchased from Jam Saheb of Nawanager; and

(b) if so, the price at which it was purchased and how this price was determined?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A Dakota aircraft was purchased by the Indian Airlines Corporation from the Jam Saheb of Nawanager for a sum of Rs 1,87,500. The price was determined after taking into consideration the condition of the plane, the number of hours it had flown and the prevailing market price of similar aircraft.

Purchase of Dakota

601. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Dakota in a dismantled and partially incomplete state, was purchased from M/s Metcaero Engineers Ltd by Indian Airlines Corporation, and

(b) if so, the price at which it was purchased and the manner in which the price was determined?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The aircraft was purchased at a cost of Rs 35,000. The price was determined after taking into consideration the cost of the spares and labour charges that would be incurred in putting it into commission. The Corporation before making the purchase were satisfied that the total expenditure incurred would be well below the prevailing market price for such aircraft.

Kichha Station Yard

602. Shri Sinhasan Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state: