

### Foreign Tourists in Kashmir

119. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited Kashmir during 1957 so far, and

(b) the facilities that were provided to them?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 2810 in the first half of 1957

(b) (i) The procedure for issuing Kashmir Entry Permits to *bonafide* foreign tourists has been simplified

(ii) Informative tourist literature on Kashmir has been produced and distributed

(iii) Concessional air and railway fares have been offered Through Air-cum-rail and rail-cum-air tickets were introduced

(iv) A new Tourist Reception Centre and retiring rooms have been constructed at Srinagar

### Electrification of Gurdaspur District, Punjab

120. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have given a loan to the Punjab Government for electrification in the district of Gurdaspur,

(b) if so, when this grant was given.

(c) whether electrification work has started there, and

(d) the progress made upto the end of July, 1957?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The loan (not grant) was given in January, 1956.

(c) The work is already in progress.

(d) Information regarding the progress made till the end of July, 1957, is not available. The progress till the end of March, 1957, is indicated below:

(1) H. T. Line erected 304 miles

(2) L.T. Distribution line erected .. 208 miles

(3) Grid Sub-stations energised 3

(4) Distribution Sub-Stations energised . 178

(5) Towns and Villages electrified . 231

### Official Railway Delegations

121. { Shri Vasudevan Nair:  
Shri Punnoose:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the number of official delegations sent abroad by the Railway Board during the year 1956 and so far in 1957,

(b) the purpose for which each delegation went and the names and number of persons included in each of them, and

(c) the expenditure incurred by each delegation during the period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) 1956: 8  
1957: 6

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table [See Appendix I, Annexure No 57]

### Office of Director General of Shipping

122. Shri H. C. Mathur: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to shift the office of Director General of Shipping from Bombay to Delhi, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?