

Dickens Formula

1008. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dickens formula is applied in the construction of all the bridges on the National Highways;

(b) if so, what is that formula; and

(c) what are the advantages of this formula over other formulae?

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

(b) The formula is $Q-CA \frac{1}{2}$; where Q-the maximum flood discharge in cusecs;

A catchment area in square miles; and

C-empirical constant to be fixed in each case in consideration of the site conditions.

(c) The matter is highly technical and it is at present being investigated by a high level Committee set up by the Railway Board.

Derailment of Train at Phephna Station

1009. Shri Radhamohan Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the night of 20th July, 1957 at Phephna Junction Station of the North Eastern Railway two wagons of a goods train were derailed, blocking the line for a considerable time;

(b) whether the causes of the derailment at that place have been investigated; and

(c) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) At about 10:35 hours on 20-7-1957 while Up Empty Coal Special was being admitted on line No. 3 of Phephna station on the Chupra-Aunrihar Junction

Section of Muzaffarpur Region, two empty wagons which were 18th and 19th from the engine derailed of all their wheels blocking the passage to and from Chupra end for about three hours.

(b) and (c). The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Railway Quarters and Workshops on Western Railway

1010. Shri M. B. Thakore: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government quarters of the Railway Staff on the Western Railway at present;

(b) the number of workshops remodelled on the Western Railway so far; and

(c) whether Government propose to construct more workshops in the Second Five Year Plan on this Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) About 48,450 quarters as on 31st March, 1957.

(b) One.

(c) Yes, Sir. Work on the construction of three new workshops is in progress and some more new workshops have been programmed.

Railwaymen at Sealdah Division

1011. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railwaymen attached to relief trains in the Sealdah Division have to work at the sites of accident for indefinite period without food and rest; and

(b) if so, whether provisions of food and rest for such workers will be made?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.