

chased from abroad unless it is inevitable. For the future requirements as well, every effort is being made to develop indigenous capacity for the manufacture of stores at present imported from abroad.

International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of Sea by Oil

1237. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1178 on the 26th August, 1957 and state whether India has since accepted the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, which was drafted at the International Conference held in London on the 12th May, 1954?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): No. Government have not yet taken a decision in the matter.

Revision of Fares in D.T.S. Buses

1238. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1295 on the 29th August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether any decision with regard to the revision of rate of fare for children between 3 and 12 years of age by the Delhi Transport Service has since been taken; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). The Delhi Road Transport Authority has recently decided to make a general reduction in the Delhi Transport Service fares. It is estimated that this reduction will reduce the Authority income by about

Rs. 6 lakhs per annum. The revised fares are likely to be introduced with effect from 1st January, 1958. It is, therefore, not possible for the Authority to make any other concessions in its fares without watching for some time the effect of the reduced fares on its financial position. The Authority has accordingly decided to postpone a decision on the question of granting half fare concession to the children for a period of six months.

Foreign Tourists at Bhakra Nangal

1239. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the number of foreign tourists who visited Bhakra Nangal during 1956-57?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): 452 foreign tourists.

Class IV Railway Employees

1240. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:
Shri Thimmiah:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1280 on the 29th August, 1957 and state:

(a) the names of the Members of the Committee appointed to review the channels of promotion to Class IV Railway Employees;

(b) whether it is a fact that this Committee has refused to receive representations from certain Railway Trade Unions on the ground of non-recognition;

(c) if so, whether any complaint has been received by Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shekharwar Khan): (a) 1. Shri G. D. Tapase—Chairman.

2. Shri B. B. Mathur, Senior Deputy General Manager, Northern Railway—Member.

3. Shri C. V. Cunningham, Senior Deputy Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs—Member.

4. Shri A. P. Sharma, Vice-President, National Federation of Indian Railwaymen—Member.

5. Miss Maniben Kara, President, Western Railway Employees Union—Member.

6. Shri S. S. Jagota, Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer, Chittaranjan Locomotive Works—Member.

7. Shri J. N. Roy, Deputy General Manager, Eastern Railway—Member.

8. Shri B. N. Datar, Director, Labour and Employment, Planning Commission—Member.

(b) The Committee sent their questionnaire to and have interviewed recognised railway unions, individuals and public men but not representatives of unrecognised railway unions, except in their individual capacity.

(c) Yes.

(d) As in addition to recognised unions, individual railway employees and others are given a hearing, no further action has been considered necessary.

Fertilizers

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

1241. Shri Hoda:

Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to restrict the import of ammonium sulphate;

(b) if so, by what amount the import of ammonium sulphate will be cut; and

(c) what other kinds of fertilizers will be imported in its place and from what countries?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnaswamy): (a) and (b). Ammonium Sulphate has been the most popular nitrogenous fertiliser and is the only such fertiliser at present manufactured in the country. Under the expansion programme of Sindri and the new fertiliser factories that are being set up, urea, ammonium sulphate nitrate and calcium ammonium nitrate will be manufactured. With a view to popularise these new fertilisers before our factories go into production, they are being imported in larger quantities which has necessarily meant restricting the imports of ammonium sulphate. Due to the shortage of foreign exchange the import of ammonium sulphate has had to be further restricted. Out of a total of 3 lakh tons of imports during 1958-59, we would be importing only about one lakh tons in the form of ammonium sulphate.

(c) Urea, Ammonium Sulphate Nitrate and Calcium Ammonium Nitrate will be imported. The countries from which these fertilisers will be imported will be known only after contracts for 1958-59 purchases have been finalised.

Red Rain in Kerala

1242. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hasda:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 675 on the 6th August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the sample of the red water collected has been analysed;

(b) if so, the details of the report;

(c) whether it is also a fact that on the 1st September, 1957 yellow rain fell on some parts of the Tamluk Municipality in the district of Midnapur, West Bengal; and

(d) if so, whether the chemical composition of the yellow water and