

(b) in which countries orders have been placed and the value of each order?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawas Khan):** (a) The Mission visited Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, France, Italy, Luxemburg, Poland, Rumania, United Kingdom, West Germany and Yugoslavia.

(b) A statement is placed on the table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No. 152]

#### Construction of a Bridge over Sutlej River

**1523. Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Punjab have sought any financial assistance for the construction of a bridge across the river Sutlej near Harke on Ferozepore-Jullundur Road;

(b) if so, the amount asked for;

(c) whether the Central Government have considered the same, and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon?

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

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

#### Quarters for P & T. Employees

**1524. Shri Rajendra Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent on the construction of quarters for the staff of Post and Telegraph Department in 1956-57;

(b) the money spent on the construction of quarters in Delhi circle during the same period; and

(c) the budget provision for these?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** (a) to (c). The information

is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Travelling Ticket Examiners

**1525. Shri P. L. Barupal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what decision has been taken for paying travelling allowance to Travelling Ticket Examiners and Conductors of the Northern Railway?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawas Khan):** Travelling Ticket Examiners who perform touring duty on an average of more than 20 days in a month draw consolidated travelling allowance under the rules. Those performing less than 20 days touring are paid travelling allowance on trip basis. Such Travelling Ticket Examiners who are performing less than 20 days touring in a month but who are in receipt of a consolidated travelling allowance on the basis of an option exercised by them previously are allowed to retain the same at existing rates, if they so prefer. Conductors draw travelling allowance under the normal rules.

#### Leave to Railway Staff

**1526. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shri Tangamani:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees suffering from Tuberculosis are given leave for 18 months, and

(b) if so, whether half pay and allowance are paid during the leave period?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawas Khan):** (a) & (b). No Sir, not necessarily for 18 months. In addition to leave with pay at the credit of the employee, leave is granted on half average pay in advance of its being earned and also extraordinary leave without pay for periods varying with the length of