

modation—rented as well as surplus in any departmental building—in any health resort of repute.

(b) No definite number can be indicated at this stage.

Employees on Southern Railway

100. **Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees on the Southern Railway declared medically unfit during 1955-56 and 1956-57;

(b) the number of employees who were offered and absorbed into alternative jobs on their old pay;

(c) the number of employees who were offered alternative jobs on lower pay; and

(d) the number of employees who were retired from service on medical grounds?

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

	1955-56	1956-57
(a)	502	465
(b)	180	144
(c)	170	119
(d)	172	202

Committee for Postal Forms

101. **Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee set up by Government to investigate the problems of printing, supply and consumption of postal and telegraph forms has held any meeting; and

(b) when the committee propose to submit their final report?

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

(b) It is hoped in about six months time.

Rajasthan Canal

103. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the funds allotted for the Sarhind Feeder and Rajasthan Canal to Punjab and Rajasthan Governments respectively by the Central Government for 1957-58?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Pathi): No request for funds during 1957-58 has been received from the Punjab Government for Sirhind Feeder Project.

As regards Rajasthan Canal, the Government of Rajasthan have asked for a provision of Rs. 1.6 crores during 1957-58. The question of allotment is under consideration.

Opening of New Post Offices

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

(a) how many new post offices were to be opened and the status of how many of the old ones was to be raised in the first Five Year Plan in the State of Punjab and how far the target fixed was implemented, district-wise;

(b) how many cases of opening of new branch post offices and raising the status of the old ones have been transferred from the First Plan period to that of the Second Plan in each district of that State and the reasons therefor;

(c) how many cases of opening of new branch post offices have been finalised to be opened in the Ferozepore district in the current year; and

(d) the location of such offices in the district?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) During the first Five-Year Plan period no specific district or statewide targets were fixed either for opening new post offices or for raising status of the existing ones. However, there was an all-India target for opening new post offices, which