

Claims on N.E. Railway

227. **Shri Rajendra Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of claims that the North-Eastern Railway had to pay in the following years respectively:—

- (i) 1953-54
- (ii) 1954-55
- (iii) 1955-56
- (iv) 1956-57

(v) and from 1st April, 1957 to 1st September, 1957;

(b) the total amount of outstanding claims under consideration on the same Railway;

(c) the total number of claims petitions preferred against pilferage and thefts on Paleza Ghat and Mokamah Ghat and the amount involved in the following years:

- (i) 1955-56
- (ii) 1956-57, and
- (iii) 1st April, 1957 to the 1st September, 1957;

(d) whether it is a fact that cases of thefts and pilferages have not shown appreciable decline on the North-Eastern Railway; and

(e) if so, what steps Government have taken or contemplate to take to seal the leaking points and bring to book the offenders departmentally?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Total amount of claims paid by North Eastern Railway year-wise was:—

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----|---------------|
| 1953-54 | .. | Rs. 36,69,779 |
| 1954-55 | .. | Rs. 37,12,503 |
| 1955-56 | .. | Rs. 53,62,744 |
| 1956-57 | .. | Rs. 53,93,694 |
| 1st April to 1st September, '57. | .. | Rs. 18,77,299 |

(b) Approximately Rs. 56,59,000 as on 30th September, 1957.

(c) Separate statistics are not maintained, giving the number of claims preferred on account of pilferage and thefts at any individual stations such as Paleza Ghat and Mokamah Ghat.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise. However, the normal precautions are being intensified and extended.

Railway Lines

228. **Shri Sugandhi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total mileage of the various rail tracks, Gauge-wise and Zone-wise and the area in square miles of each such Zone;

(b) the Zones in which double lines now exist with their total length;

(c) the Zones that were provided with new lines during the First Five Year Plan period; and

(d) the Zones in which narrow gauge was converted into-metre or board gauge system during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The Hon'ble Member presumably refers to the individual zonal Railway systems; his attention is invited to statement No. 8 in the "Report by the Railway Board on Indian Railways for the year 1955-56" Volume II, which contains the information regarding various rail tracks and double lines Railway-wise and Gauge-wise. Railway track being longitudinal, only the mileage can be stated and not the area in sq. miles for each zonal system.

(c) and (d). The information relating to new lines and to conversion of N. G. lines is set out in Tables 1 and 3 appearing on pages 11 and 12 of the pamphlet, "The progress of the First Five Year Plan on Indian Railways", copies of which were supplied