

**Minor Ports**

**466. Shri Yadav:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to make greater use of minor ports in order to reduce congestion in major ports;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to enable any minor ports to handle a large amount of traffic than they can handle at present; and

(c) how much traffic has upto now been diverted to minor ports and how much of it is proposed to be diverted in future?

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

(b) Yes. Development schemes designed to improve facilities in the more important minor ports are in various stages of execution.

(c) Six foodships and two fertiliser ships scheduled for discharge at major ports were diverted to minor ports in the six month period between 1st February and 31st July, 1957. Similar diversions will be arranged in future according to the needs of the situation. Minor ports are also being increasingly used for ore exports.

**Bridge over Palar River**

**467. Shri N. R. Munisamy:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the time that would be taken to complete the construction of the bridge over the Palar river in North Arcot District of Madras State;

(b) the progress so far made; and

(c) whether the work has suffered due to rain or want of materials?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The work is likely to be completed by the middle of 1958.

(b) The Overall progress of the bridge upto the end of October, 1957 was 77.43%. The work on well foundations for the entire bridge is nearing completion. Both the abutments and guide bunds as well as half the number of piers have been completed. As regards the superstructure 10 out of 30 spans have been completed.

(c) Yes, Sir. At certain stages delays did take place on account of rains and shortage of materials.

**Allotment of Foodgrains to Rajasthan**

**468. Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what quantity of food stuff viz. wheat, rice and bajra were allotted to Rajasthan during this year till the end of October, 1957?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** 48,200 tons of wheat was despatched to Rajasthan during this year upto the end of October, 1957. No rice or bajra was allotted.

**PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE****REPORT OF THE INDIAN DELEGATION TO THE TENTH SESSION OF WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

**The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Indian Delegation to the Tenth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South East Asia, held in Rangoon in September, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-374/57.]

**COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS: NINTH REPORT**

**Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda):** I beg to present the Ninth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.