

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

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in P. & T. Department

1871. **Shri Kumbhar:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1351 on the 6th September, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the vacancies grade-wise of the reserved quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have since been filled up in Sambalpur Postal Division;

(b) if not, the reason therefor;

(c) the total number of persons appointed as mail runners and peons etc. since then; and

(d) the total number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (**Shri Raj Bahadur**): (a) to (d). A statement showing the information is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 86.] The reserved quota for Scheduled Castes was filled by them. The reserved quota for Scheduled Tribes was not, however, fully taken up for want of suitable candidates belonging to these Tribes.

Central Godowns in Bihar

1872. **Shri Anirudh Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the number and names of places of Central Godowns in Bihar for storage of foodgrains;

(b) the quantity of different kinds of foodgrains released for sale through the fair price shops and the rates thereof upto 28th February, 1958; and

(c) the position of the stock of foodgrains as on the 15th March, 1958 in the various Central Godowns in Bihar?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (**Shri A. P. Jain**): (a) There are Central Government depots at the following 20 centres in Bihar:—

Patna (including Marufganj).
Muzaffarpur.
Darbhanga.
Gaya.
Manpur.
Jainagar.
Mokameh.
Katihar.
Jamshedpur.
Madhepura
Purnea.
Bhaga.
Bhagalpur.
Sultanganj.
Monghyr.
Forbesganj.
Garhbanail.
Ranchi.
Kodarma.
Daltonganj.

(b) 100,900 tons of foodgrains were released from Government stocks (Central and State) for sale through fair price shops during January and February 1958. Government issue prices are Rs. 14 per maund for wheat, Rs. 16 per maund for rice and Rs. 12 per maund for gram, all ex-godown and inclusive of the cost of gunnies. The retailers have been getting a commission of -|8|- annas to Rs. 1|8|- per maund, the variation depending on the distance of the retails centres from the godown and the cost of transport.

(c) 40.3 thousand tons of foodgrains were in stock in the Central Government godowns in Bihar on 15th March 1958. (This excludes 156,000 tons held in stock by the State Government).