

**The Minister of Transport and Communications and Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) and (b). The total number of scheduled services of the Indian Airlines Corporation which were delayed by more than 30 minutes due to various reasons during 1957 was 3729 of which 603 were due to mechanical trouble.

#### **Automatic Telephone Exchanges in Gauhati and Shillong**

**1901. Shri Bhagavati:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for installation of automatic telephone exchanges at Gauhati and Shillong in the State of Assam; and

(b) if so, when the work of installation is going to start?

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

(b) It is intended to undertake the installation of these exchanges during the 2nd Plan period, but it is too early to give more specific targets.

#### **Refractionists and Opticians**

**1902. Shri Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have prepared a scheme for the training of Refractionists and Opticians and also started training in a number of Hospitals;

(b) if so, the names of such Government institutes where the training is given;

(c) the number of students being trained therein at present; and

(d) whether any opticians association have submitted any memorandum in the past demanding to start such a scheme for training and registration in this connection?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmakar):** (a) Yes.

(b) (i) Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh.

(ii) Sarojini Devi Hospital and Institute of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology, Hyderabad.

(c) 32 (20 at the Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh and 12 at the Sarojini Devi Hospital, Hyderabad).

(d) Yes.

#### **Medium and Minor Irrigation**

**1903. Shri Shivnanjappa:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to the State of Mysore for medium and minor irrigation works in 1957-58 and how much has been actually spent; and

(b) the extent of land brought under cultivation as a result of these works?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Rs. 94 lakhs and Rs. 127.57 lakhs were allotted during 1957-58 for Medium Irrigation works and Minor Irrigation Works respectively.

Complete information regarding actual expenditure incurred is not available. According to information received from State Government actual expenditure incurred upto 30th September, 1957 is Rs. 30.5 lakhs for Medium Irrigation Works and Rs. 32.33 lakhs for Minor Irrigation Works.

(b) Complete information regarding land brought under cultivation is not available. According to information received from the State Government—land brought under cultivation from April to September, 1957 as a result of implementation of medium irrigation schemes is 24,540 acres and minor irrigation schemes is 10,401 acres.