

Railway Protection Force

936. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Protection Force has been established on the Northern Railway;

(b) if so, the date of its establishment; and

(c) the name of its Headquarters.

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) 1st January, 1955.

(c) Northern Railway Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi.

Soil Conservation Schemes in Punjab

937. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount had been allotted to the Punjab State during 1957-58 for soil conservation measures for preventing riverine soil erosion; and

(b) if so, the amount and the rivers covered under the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). A sum of Rs. 3:37 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Central Government for schemes of soil conservation in the Punjab in 1957-58. But the schemes received do not specifically refer to the problems of riverine orision. Of this, Rs. 1:35 lakhs has been given for soil conservation schemes relating to cho-training in Hoshiarpur and Ambala districts and afforestation in various catchments such as Bhakra and Kulu which would help regulate the river systems concerned.

Holiday Camps

938. Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of holiday camps for the children of railway employees held in 1957;

(b) the number of children participated during the same year; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on this item during that year?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) 14.

(b) 1,457.

(c) Rs. 70,556 out of which Rs. 46,740 was met from the Staff Benefit Fund and the balance of Rs. 23,816 was realised from the parents of the children.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में इमारती लकड़ी

९३९. श्री नेक राम नेगी : क्या लाह तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह ज्ञात है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश के जिला सिरमौर में जनता को मकान बनाने के लिये इमारती लकड़ी प्राप्त नहीं हो पाती यद्यपि रियायती दरों पर लकड़ी प्राप्त करने का उनका अधिकार सरकार मानती है ; और

(ख) उनकी आवश्यकता को पूरा करने के लिये सरकार क्या उपाय करेगी ?

लाह और कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री म० म० धामस) : (क) सिरमौर जिले के कुछ स्थानों पर प्राकृतिक वनों की ज्यादा रियायतें देने के कारण कमी हो गई है। इसलिये रियायत लेने वालों को (cessionaires) रियायती दरों पर ऐसे स्थानों में पेड़ नहीं मिलते हैं। जहां पर पेड़ वनवर्धनिक ढंग से मिलते हैं, वहां पर बन्दोबस्त रिकार्डों में लिखी शर्तों के अनुसार पेड़ काटने की इजाजत दी जाती है।

(ख) जितना भी सम्भव हो सकता है, उनकी जायज जरूरियातें पहले ही पूरी की जा रही और कोई नये उपाय नहीं बताये गये हैं।