

Purchase of Rice in Andhra

947. Shri Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of rice which Government purchased in Andhra Pradesh during 1957;

(b) the stock it propose to buy in 1958; and

(c) the rate of purchase?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) About 78,900 tons

(b) There is no fixed target. The volume of purchase will depend on various factors, such as production of rice during the coming months, net surplus of the Southern Zone, the trend of prevailing prices of rice within the Zone, etc

(c) It is presumed that the hon'ble member desires to know the purchase prices. A statement giving the desired information is attached [See Appendix IV, annexure No 71]

Death of a Railway Gateman

948. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the enquiry into the causes of death of a Railway gateman while he was on his duty at Ghaziabad on the 19th December, 1957, has been completed, and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the inquiry Committee and the Government's reaction thereon?

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

(b) Shri Jodha Ram, gateman was knocked down by the Up Dehra Dun Express on 19-12-57 in trying to save the life of a child. For this act of outstanding gallantry, the Railway administration have sanctioned a cash reward of Rs. 1,000. The Administration is also considering what other steps can be taken to assist the family of the deceased.

बम्बई राज्य के महाड़ नगर में तारघर

६४६. श्री आसकर : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि महाड़ (बम्बई राज्य के कुलाबा जिले) में तारघर का कार्य प्रायः बन्द रहता है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसका क्या कारण है ; और

(ग) इस स्थिति को सुधारने के लिये सरकार क्या कदम उठाने जा रही है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) एक तार परिपथ (Telegraph Circuit) महाड़ में बम्बई को मिलाता है। यह परिपथ ६६% की क्षमता कार्य-क्षमता (Efficiency) में सन्तोषजनक काम कर रहा है ?

(ख) और (ग) पिछले दो महीनों में इस परिपथ (Circuit) पर विशेष ग्रुप परिरक्षण (Special group maintenance) विषयक कार्य किया गया था, एवं इसका द्वारा अन्तरावरोधन (Interruption) के सभी सम्भावित (Likely) कारणों को दूर किया गया।

Shipping service on the West Coast of India

950. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that a new shipping company has been established with headquarters in Bombay to operate service on the West Coast of India;

(b) if so, who are the sponsors of this company; and

(c) what is their authorized capital?