

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) and (b). While no new National Highways are proposed to be included in the system of National Highways in Punjab State, it is proposed to construct some bye-passes round towns on the roads which have already been classed as National Highways. The Cost of these works is estimated at Rs. 29.26 lakhs.

Senior Superintendent Posts in P. & T. Department

2841. Shri Ghosal: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many senior Superintendents' posts have been created since 1951 in Post and Telegraph Department;

(b) what is the total extra expenditure involved up-to-date; and

(c) how many new posts are still under contemplation?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):

(a) Two.

(b) Rs. 50,000 approximately.

(c) One.

भरतपुर को सिंचाई की सुविधायें

२८४२. श्री पहाड़िया : क्या सिंचाई और बिद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार झोखला के निकट जमुना नदी से एक बड़ी नहर निकाल कर भरतपुर जिले को सिंचाई की सुविधायें देने की योजना पर विचार कर रही है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

सिंचाई और बिद्युत् उपमंत्री (श्री हाथी): (क) उत्तर हां में है। पंजाब

की गुड़गांव नहर परियोजना के अधीन भागरा नहर के १५वें मील में निकाली जाने वाली नहर, बरसात के मौसम में गुड़गांव जिले की सिंचाई के प्रतिरिक्त भरतपुर को ५०० बयजक पानी देगी।

(ख) सिंचाई तथा विद्युत् परियोजनाओं की सलाहकार समिति ने अपनी २७-२-५८ की बैठक में इस योजना पर विचार किया और यह निश्चय किया गया कि राजस्थान में सींचे जाने वाले वास्तविक क्षेत्र के बारे में खानबीन की जाय। इन्वेस्टिगेशन अभी पूरा नहीं हुआ।

Sugar-cane

2843. Shri R. Narayanasamy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what is the progress made so far with regard to the cross-breeding of sugarcane with sorghum at the Experimental Station at Coimbatore, Madras State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The first crosses between sugarcane and sorghum were made at the Sugarcane Breeding Institute in 1929. These crosses were effected several times using different species and varieties of Sorghum, including African, American and wild Indian types. Many genuine hybrids were obtained in some of these crosses, most of them being low yielding ones. Even the best of them could not compete with other Co. canes in the yield per acre and sugar contents. They could not, therefore, reach commercial status.

Development of Animal Husbandry in Himachal Pradesh

2844. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the nature of the schemes approved and sanctioned by the Central Government for Himachal Pradesh for the development of animal husbandry and Veterinary care during the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The details of

the Schemes and the Plan provision in respect of them are as follows:—

Name of the Scheme	Plan ceiling during the 2nd Five Year Plan.
	(Rs. in lakhs).
1. Cattle Breeding	8.48
2. Cross Breeding of Indigenous cattle	1.34
3. Poultry scheme	2.46
4. Sheep Breeding scheme	5.73
5. Opening of new hospital	4.29
6. Veterinary education29
7. Eradication of Rinderpest	2.69
8. Key Village Scheme	2.39
9. Establishment of the offices of Assistant Animal Husbandry Officers at Nahan and Chamba	1.24
10. Disease Investigation Scheme49
11. Goat Breeding Scheme	1.36
TOTAL	30.76

Increase in Dearness Allowance to Railway Employees

2845. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have announced increase in dearness allowance to the Railway employees drawing a basic pay not exceeding Rs. 300/- per month; and

(b) if so, the number of employees to be benefited by it?

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

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Lebong Post Office in Darjeeling

2846. Shri Manaen: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Lebong Post Office in Darjeeling within the Cantonment area and in the close proximity of a large number of tea gardens has been closed; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):

(a) Yes, temporarily from 24-6-57.

(b) The departmental building housing the post office was declared unsafe by the C.P.W.D. due to development of a big crack in the hill just