

Freight Charges and Rice from Burma

1750. **Shri Heda:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Scindia Steam Navigation Co. have lodged a complaint that the rate of freight as agreed to by Government for the carriage of four lakh tons of rice from Burma was uneconomic;

(b) if so, whether Government have gone into the operating costs; and

(c) at what stage the matter stands at present?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (**Shri Raj Bahadur**): (a) to (c). It is presumed that the Honourable Member is referring to the Agreement for the carriage of rice against the 1958 Contract with Burma. If so it cannot be said that the basic rate of Rs. 40 per ton offered by Government was uneconomic because the Great Eastern Shipping Co. accepted it and the other Indian Shipping Cos. including Scindias followed suit after some hard bargaining.

Bombay State Road Transport Corporation

1751. **Shri Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) what capital has been invested by the Central Government in the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation;

(b) how many passenger and goods buses run in the various regions of the above State;

(c) what is the whole capital of the Corporation;

(d) what is the total income derived and the net profit made by the Corporation during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58; and

(e) how many employees have been engaged in the Corporation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (**Shri Raj Bahadur**): (a) Rs. 387.50 lakhs as on the 31st March, 1957.

(b) The Bombay State Road Transport Corporation was operating 2,646 buses and 627 goods vehicles as on the 31st January, 1958, in the portions of the Bombay State served by it.

(c) Rs. 1475.29 lakhs (as on the 31st March, 1957).

(d) The total income and the net profit of the Corporation during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 are Rs. 1157.78 lakhs and Rs. 66.13 lakhs and Rs. 1069.1 lakhs (estimated) and Rs. 25.1 lakhs (estimated) respectively. The information in respect of the year 1956-57 relates to the original Bombay State Road Transport Corporation for the first nine months i.e. April to December, 1956) and the residual Corporation for the remaining three months (i.e. January to March, 1957). The figures for the year 1957-58 are based on the Budget Estimates of the Corporation for that year.

(e) 19,247.

Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Schemes in Orissa

1752. **Shri Kumbhar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of aid given by the Central Government to the Orissa State for animal husbandry and veterinary schemes during the First Five Year Plan and so far; and

(b) the nature of aid proposed to be given before the end of the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (**Shri A. P. Jain**): (a) A statement is attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 33.]

(b) Loans and Grants are given on demand by the State Government in respect of schemes which are eligible for financial assistance from the Government of India and within the ceiling approved for the schemes under the Second Five Year Plan.

Development of Nangal Dam as a Tourist Centre

1753. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far to make Nangal Dam a tourist centre; and

(b) the money allotted for the same purpose during 1957-58?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The Government of the Punjab have posted a Public Relations Officer to provide facilities to the tourists at Nangal. He issues permits and arranges accommodation for the visitors. Because the number of visitors is very large it is proposed to open in co-operation with the State Government a tourist bureau with adequate information and guide staff so that visitors of various types are given full attention and information. Nangal has also been connected with bus services running throughout the State and Delhi.

The Second Five Year Plan for Tourism contains a provision of Rs. 1.50 lakhs for the construction of a low income group rest house (25 beds) at Bhakra Nangal to be financed jointly by the Central and State Governments. The scheme forms part of the State Plan and is proposed to be taken up by the State Government during the year 1958-59. They have been requested to proceed with it on an urgent basis. It is understood that the site for the rest house has been selected at Nangal.

(b) Money allotted by the Central Government for the development of Nangal dam as a tourist centre during the year 1957-58 was nil, as detailed

plans and estimates had not been received from the State Government. The provision made in the budget estimates for the year 1958-59 is Rs. 35,000 for meeting the Central Government share of the expenditure on the low income group rest house. Publicity programme for the year 1958-59 includes the printing of a folder "Chandigarh-Bhakra-Nangal-Amritsar" (two lakh copies) in English, Hindi and nine other regional languages.

Postal Services between Delhi and Bikaner

1754. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the reasons for the ordinary letters taking two days to reach Delhi from Bikaner and from Bikaner to Delhi whereas the duration of train time is only 12 hours?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The present arrangements for the disposal of letters between Bikaner and Delhi are as in the attached statement. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 34.]

Research Schemes

1755. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the number and nature of research schemes received from the Rajasthan Government and approved by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research between April, 1949 and the 31st March, 1957?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): A statement showing the required information is appended. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 35.]

Intensive Cultivation in Punjab

1756. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted to Punjab for intensive cultivation under the First Five Year Plan;