

Transport Development Council

*1928. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 609 on the 28th February, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the proposal to constitute a Transport Development Council and the Central Transport Co-ordination Committee has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The composition and other details regarding these bodies have almost been finalised and will be announced shortly.

Suspension of Railway Employees

*1931. **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 50 employees of the old Assam Railway were placed under suspension in January and February, 1949 under the National Security Rules and that some of these cases of suspension are still pending; and

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that investigation into the conduct of the suspended employees has not yet been completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). 18 employees (not 50) were placed under suspension. Out of these 18 cases, 11 have been finalised and action is pending in 7 cases.

Indo-Pakistan Canal Waters Dispute

*1934. **Shri N. E. Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Pakistan talks at official level for evolving a settlement in regard to

equitable distribution of the waters of the Indus basin are expected to be resumed in Rome on or about the last week of April, 1958 under the auspices of the World Bank;

(b) if so, who is likely to be sent; and

(c) what is the agenda for the meeting?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The talks in Rome have started on 24th April, 1958.

(b) The following officers have been deputed to represent India:

1. Shri N. D. Gulhati, I.S.E., Joint Secretary (Leader).
2. Shri H. C. Kalra, Deputy Secretary.
3. Dr. J. K. Malhotra, O.S.D.

(c) The talks in Rome will be in continuation of the discussions held by Mr. W.A.B. Hiff, Vice-President of the world Bank, with the representatives of India and Pakistan during his visit in January this year, and are intended to explore further the possibilities of various approaches towards a settlement of the Canal Water Dispute.

Road Transport Corporation Act

*1942. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state at what stage is the proposal for amending the Road Transport Corporation Act 1950, with a view to facilitate the smooth working of the Corporations set up by the State Governments under this Act?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Several proposals for amending the Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950, have been received from the State Governments and others. These proposals are under examination at present. It is proposed to bring up before the House a consolidated amending bill in a few months time.