

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). The matter is still under investigation by the Government Railway Police, Punjab and their report has not yet been received.

#### Women Employees on Railways

266. { Shri Rami Reddy:  
Shri N. E. Munisamy:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women employees in different railways; and

(b) the number of such women in different departments of Railways?

**The Deputy Minister for Railways (Shri Shannawaz Khan):** (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Theft of Copper Wire

267. **Shri N. R. Munisamy:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the number of circuit hours lost by thefts of copper wire in trunk telephones and telegraphs services in the year 1957?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):** The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

#### Loss to Railways due to Accidents

268. **Shri Chuni Lal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss sustained by Railways due to accidents and derailments during the years 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1958 so far, year-wise; and

(b) what is the percentage of this loss to the total income of the Railways, year-wise?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Losses due to accidents are computed in terms

of costs of damage to track and rolling-stock and claims payments on financial year basis and not on calendar year basis.

For the years 1955-56 onwards, the approximate cost of damage to track and rolling-stock due to all accidents including derailments was as follows:—

#### Indian Railways

Year	Approximate cost of damage to track and rolling-stock due to all accidents.
	Rs. (000)
1955-56	56,98
1956-57	68,92
1957-58	41,94
1958-59	15,38
(Up to August, 1958)	

The figures regarding claims payments during these years are under collection and the information will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as ready.

(b) Percentage of costs of damages to track and rolling stock to total gross earnings is given below:—

#### Indian Railways

Year	Percentage of cost of damage to total gross earnings.
1955-56	0.18
1956-57	0.20
1957-58	0.11
1958-59	0.10
(Up to August, 1958)	

The overall percentage, inclusive of the amount of compensation paid, will be furnished along with the information regarding claims payments referred to in reply to part (a) above.

#### Quarters for Railway Staff

269. **Shri Agadi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether quarters for Railway staff were constructed in Guntakal, the

**Southern Railway Divisional Headquarters during 1956-58:**

(b) if so, the number of quarters and the total cost of the constructions; and

(c) whether it is a fact that large number of quarters though allotted are not occupied by the staff as many of them are not fit for dwelling?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan)** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Total 412 units of different types of quarters at a cost of Rs 26,65,197 have been constructed in Guntakal during 1956-58.

(c) No Sir All quarters are fit for dwelling and have been occupied by staff.

#### Conference on Auxiliary Nursing

**270. Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state how many nations took part in a W.H.O. sponsored Conference on auxiliary nursing which took place in New Delhi on 3rd November, 1958?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar):** Representatives from the under-mentioned countries participated in the Conference:

Afghanistan,  
Burma,  
Ceylon,  
Egypt,  
India,  
Indonesia,  
Iran,  
Japan,  
Pakistan,  
Sudan, and  
Thailand

A representative from Taiwan also attended this Conference.

#### Long Staple American Cotton

**271. Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether long staple American cotton can be grown successfully in the Manipur Valley;

(b) if so, the acreage on which the said cotton was grown in 1957 and 1958 and the amount of yield in the respective years;

(c) how the yield compares with the yield of cotton crops of different varieties in other parts of India; and

(d) the scope of growing the said American variety on a larger scale in Manipur?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Yes From the condition of the cotton crop in 1956, the Director of Agriculture in Manipur felt that the Parbhani American cotton could be introduced in the Manipur Valley.

(b) No figures are available, but cotton is not grown in Manipur to any appreciable extent

(c) Information is not available

(d) It cannot be said with any certainty what scope there is for growing the said American variety on a large scale in Manipur. It would be desirable to undertake further systematic trials before deciding the scope for growing American variety

#### Regional Post Graduate Agriculture Research Training Centre

**272. Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2597 on the 23rd September, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the scheme submitted by the Punjab Government to set up a Regional Post-graduate Agricultural Research Training Centre for higher degrees has since been considered; and

(b) if so, the decision arrived at?