

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

(ii) Waterproof coats are supplied only to a few categories.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). The grant or otherwise of woollen uniforms and waterproof equipments depends upon the severity of winter and the rainfall in the different regions served by the Railways. The Dress Regulations of the Railways have accordingly been drawn up taking into account the conditions prevailing in the different regions served by the Railways and any difference between the standards obtaining on the different Railways cannot be taken as discrimination.

Panchayats

2742. Shri Venkatasubbalah: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Central Government to augment the financial resources of various Panchayats to implement the Community Development Programme in the country; and

(b) if so, what they are?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes.

(b) It has been decided that out of the block schematic budget the expenditure on items which could be treated as "Local works", e.g. Drinking water supply, drainage and sanitation, Education, Social Education and Communications, should be incurred through Panchayats. The provision in the schematic block budget in this regard is Rs. 2.90 lakhs for Stage I and Rs. 2.00 lakhs for Stage II blocks. States have been advised to utilize these amounts through Panchayats.

25 (A) LSD-3.

Survey Projects on Railway

2743. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the details of the survey of Railway lines so far carried out on the Southern Railway since 1952 to date;

(b) how far the survey work has progressed; and

(c) when the actual work of construction of these lines is likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 38].

Post Office Building, Jullundur City

2744. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Warlor:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Post Office building in Jullundur City under construction has been completed; and

(b) if not, how long will it take to complete the building?

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

(a) and (b). The main P & T building at Jullundur has since been completed but work on sanitary fittings and compound wall is not yet completed. The work on these items is in progress. The building is expected to take about six months more to be completed in all respects.

Truck Accidents in Tripura

2745. Shri Bangshi Thakur: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of truck accidents in Tripura causing death of persons has increased recently; and