

groups by testing their ability to dissolve cells of cholera germs, the temperature at which they cease to be active and other immunological reactions. Four hundred and seventy-three strains of *V. Cholerae* have been isolated from cholera patients in Calcutta and, on being tested with the bacteriophages, classified into five types.

- (c) Not as yet
(d) Does not arise

Livestock Progeny

760. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether any study has been or is being made of the effects of the chorionic gonado-trophic hormone in multiplying livestock progeny,

(b) if so, the results achieved, if any, so far; and

(c) whether there are any schemes for the extensive use of this hormone in animal husbandry?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, two trials were made

(b) Results achieved were unsatisfactory

(c) Extensive use of this hormone in the present state of knowledge is not advocated as it is fraught with danger

Railway Staff at Ambala Cantt.

761. Shri Rajendra Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the Railway Staff of Ambala Cantt. (Northern Railway) stopped working for three hours sometime in the last week of December, 1958; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahmawan Khan): (a) and (b). There was no stoppage of work

Specialists in Construction Work

762. { Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 37 on the 18th November, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the proposal to prepare and maintain a panel of specialists in construction work has been finalised; and

(b) how many retired officers have been set on the panel?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The proposal has not yet been finalised.

(b) Does not arise at this stage

Health Minister's Discretionary Funds

763. Shri Subodh Hansda: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) how many institutions have received non-recurring help from the Health Minister's Discretionary Funds since 1957;

(b) the highest amount that has been granted to T.B. and mental diseases sufferers; and

(c) whether the budgeted amount for 1957-58 has been fully spent?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmakar): (a) 160 Institutions received grants from January, 1957 upto 10th February, 1959

(b) Rs 1,000/-

(c) Yes

Message Rate System

764. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri R. C. Majhi:

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

(a) whether the message rate system has been extended to all telephone systems in Industrial towns in India;