3435 Written Answers FEBRUARY 27, 1959.

Electricity Council were established in the Union Territory of Delhi in 1951 These had, however, to be dissolved on the 7th April, 1958, consequent on the formation of the Delhi Municipal Corporation. No State Electricity Board or State Electricity Council has so far been established in any of the other Union Territories.

Employment of Scheduled Castes as Drinking Water Men

1092. Shri Sonavane: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state.

(a) whether any Scheduled Castes are employed as drinking water servants on the various Railways; and

(b) if so, the total number of such drinking water servants on all the Railways, Zone-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes (b)

Railway	No of Sch Caste water men
Central	46
Eastern	16
Northern	115
North	
Eastern	37
Northeast	
Frontier	38
Southern	26
South	
Eastern	34
Western	92

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Caterers

1093. Shri Sonavane: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total number of catering establishments or stalls run at all the stations of the Indian Railways by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately on the zonal railways and policy of alloting such stalls and establishments with reference to these Scheduled Castes and Tribes?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): A statement, furnishing the details desired, is placed on the Table. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 94].

The extant policy is (i) to allot small stalls and to issue licences for trainside vending to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes on a preferential basis provided they are not unsuitable.

(ii) in the case of the contracts for the larger stalls and for the Refreshment Rooms other things being equal or nearly equal, to preferentially allot the contracts to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes

Fishing net making Plant

1094. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have purchased a fishing net making plant for Bombay;

(b) whether the plant has started working, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor "

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A P Jain): (a) Yes One twine and net making plant was procured under the TCM Aid programme and allotted to Bombay Government

(b) No

(c) As the equipment was new to the country, it is necessary to recruit Erection Engineers from abroad Negotiations for their recruitment are being carried on and the plant will be installed as soon a_5 their services become available

Porters

1095 Shri Parulekar Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 92 on the 18th November, 1958 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the licensed porters on the Central Railway are paid at the rate of 4 annas