

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The original estimate for restoration had to be revised according to the present day costs. This revision and the resulting financial implications have not yet been finalized. As soon as this is done further steps will be taken.

Sinking of Cargo vessels near Saurashtra

1070. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that four cargo vessels sank off the Saurashtra Coast during October, 1959;

(b) if so, whether the reasons for the accident have been ascertained; and

(c) the estimated loss involved?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) It is reported that 36 sailing vessels have met with casualty in the Saurashtra and Kutch sea area during October, 1959.

(b) The accidents were due to cyclone.

(c) Preliminary inquiries into the casualties are being conducted by the investigating officers at the respective ports. It is, therefore, not possible to furnish information in this respect at this stage.

Construction of Brahmaputra Bridge

1071. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of skilled, semi-skilled and non-skilled workers appointed directly by Government and through contractors for Brahmaputra Bridge construction separately?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shabnawas Khan):

	Number of workers		
	Skilled.	Semi-skilled.	Un-skilled.
Appointed directly by the Government .	183	37	814
Recruited through contractors .	125	250	523

Development of Fisheries in Punjab

1072. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to Punjab State during the First Five Year Plan towards the development of fisheries;

(b) the amount of money actually spent during that period in Punjab for this purpose;

(c) the amount of money allotted to Punjab so far during the Second Five Year Plan period;

(d) the amount of money spent so far; and

(e) the steps taken for improving the existing fishing methods, bringing under fish culture areas of water at present lying fallow, introduction of improved methods of scientific fish farming and training of personnel?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Rupees 2.4 lakhs (including PEPSU).

(b) Rupees 7.3 lakhs (including PEPSU).

(c) Rupees 8.76 lakhs upto 1959-60.

(d) Rupees 1.96 lakhs has been spent upto the year 1958-59. The budget estimate for 1959-60 is Rs. 2.56 lakhs.