

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** Necessary plans of the bridge have been prepared. However, as the bridge will cross the entire station yard, the matter requires detailed study in order to ensure that it does not hamper future development of the yard. A final decision is, however, expected to be arrived at soon.

**Railway Ferry Service between India and Ceylon**

**1272. Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Ferry Service plying between India and Ceylon is running at a loss; and

(b) if so, the loss incurred during the year 1959-60?

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

(b) Rs. 2,95,466 (Provisional).

**Mobile Library Service on S. Railway**

**1273. Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether mobile library service has been provided on the Southern Railway; and

(b) if so, on which sections?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). Not yet. It has been decided to run two mobile libraries, one each on the Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge Sections and the conversion of two coaches for the purpose is being undertaken.

**Telephone connections in Bihar**

**1274. Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Telephone connections given in Bihar during 1959-60; and

(b) the total amount spent thereon?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):** (a) 1,179.

(b) The costs of installation at the subscribers' premises alone was Rs. 1,79,585. The other costs form part of the system and are not separately assessable.

**Santonin**

**1275. Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Santonin is produced in the country as a result of research carried in the Forest Research Institute;

(b) what is its use;

(c) whether the country is self-sufficient in it;

(d) which are the concerns that produce Santonin and where they are located;

(e) what steps are being taken to plant in the country more trees which produce Santonin; and

(f) the places where these plantation works are taken up?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes.

(b) It is used as an anthelmintic against round worms.

(c) Yes.

(d) The firms and their locations are as follows:

1. M/s. Kashmir Pharmaceuticals Works, Jammu & Kashmir.

2. M/s. Mehta Brothers, Amritsar.

(e) and (f). Certain strains of *A. brevifolia* which are commercially exploitable for santonin are found mostly in Jammu & Kashmir and to a lesser extent in Lahoul Valley (Punjab). Experimental cultivation