

training from each centre for the last three years is furnished below:—

Name of centre	Number of candidates taken in			
	1957	1958	1959	
	1	2	3	4
Bombay	22	43	21	
Calcutta	2	7	6	
Delhi	19	11	36	
Ernakulam	..	6	6	
Lucknow	1	..	3	
Madras	13	5	5	
Nagpur	3	3	4	
Patna	Nil	Nil	*	

*The examination at Patna centre was cancelled due to an insufficient number of candidates appearing at that centre.

Railway Protection Force

1621. **Shri Ram Shankar Lal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the rules for the confirmation of the personnel of the Railway Protection Force; and

(b) the number of confirmations made since the force was constituted and those remaining still unconfirmed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Personnel of the Railway Protection Force are eligible for confirmation on satisfactory completion of a probationary period of two years.

- (b) (1) Number of confirmations made .. 17,239.
 (2) Number remaining still unconfirmed 11,607.

Sugar Mills in West Bengal

1622. **Shri Pramathanath Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central or State Government have fixed any ceiling price for sale of sugar manufactured by the two sugar mills in West Bengal;

(b) whether it is a fact that the National Sugar Mill, Ahmedpur (West Bengal) is selling sugar at about Rs. 52 per maund;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the management of the Mill issue two separate receipts for the sale of one maund of sugar, one for Rs. 45 and another for Rs. 7;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) what is the rate at which the National Sugar Mill purchases sugarcane;

(f) the reason as to why there is such a big difference of price between the sugar mills at Ahmedpur (West Bengal) and the mills of Bihar and U.P.; and

(g) whether any financial assistance has been given to the Ahmedpur Sugar Mill or to any of its agencies by the Central Government?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Mills produced only about 300 tons of sugar for the first time in 1959-60 on trial basis and, it is reported, disposed of the same at Rs. 52 per maund in the locality.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The position is being investigated.

The Mills are reported to have purchased sugarcane at the following prices:—

- (i) Sugarcane delivered by sugar cane growers at the factory .. Rs. 1.62 per md.
 (ii) Sugarcane delivered at rail heads .. „ 1.50 „
 (iii) Sugarcane delivered at road centres .. „ 1.44 „

(f) The position is being investigated.

(g) A loan of Rs. 21 lakhs has been given by the Ministry of Rehabilitation.