

cadres and all the posts in L.S.G. in Telegraph traffic and Telegraph Engineering branches (excepting Telephone Monitors) are filled on the basis of seniority-cum-fitness and one-third of the vacancies in Post Office, Railway Mail Service and Telephone Monitors' cadres are filled on the basis of selection. Cases of supersession for promotion of officials belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in posts filled on the basis of seniority-cum-fitness are reviewed at a higher level and in each case of supersession a report has to be sent to the Minister within a month of the decision. The cases of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes officials for selection through a Department Promotion Committee are also considered sympathetically.

Soil Conservation Scheme from Orissa

1879. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Orissa have sent a scheme for the expansion of the training period in soil conservation; and

(b) if so, what is the period of training proposed?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Yes. In June, 1960, the State Government had sent a proposal that the duration of the training course organised by them for Junior Soil Conservation Assistants (or Sub-Assistants) should be raised from 6 to 11 months.

This was not considered desirable in the interests of soil conservation work in the State and the State Government was accordingly requested to reconsider the matter. No further reference has been received from them on the subject.

2233(AI) LS-3.

Kathua-Madhopur Rail Link

1880. { **Shri Inder J. Malhotra;**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta;
Shri D. C. Sharma;
Shaikh Mohammad Akbar:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1064 on the 22nd December, 1960 and state:

(a) what further progress has been made in the matter of providing a rail link between Kathua and Madhopur;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Jammu and Kashmir Government have approached the Central Government with a request that the railway line be extended beyond Kathua to Jammu; and

(c) if so, what decision the Central Government have taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The estimate for the construction of this line has been sanctioned on 17-2-1961.

(b) Yes.

(c) The proposal has not been included in the list of new lines so far approved by the Planning Commission.

Lighthouse in Androth Island

1881. **Shri Nallakoya:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the probable date by which the construction of the proposed Light House in Androth Island would commence; and

(b) the approximate period by which its construction is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) November-December, 1961.

(b) Androth Island is completely cut off from the mainland during the

monsoons and hence the civil engineering works can be carried out only for about six months in a year. It is, however, anticipated that it would be possible to complete the work by April, 1963, subject to weather conditions remaining normal.

Supply of Sugar to Madras

1882. Shri Subbiah Ambalam: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Madras Government not to supply North Indian sugar for a few months;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) the quantity of sugar released from North Indian Sugar Mills to the Madras Government during the year 1960 (giving monthly figures)?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, Sir, the Madras Government have requested for stoppage of allotment of sugar from North Indian Sugar Mills upto the end of March, 1961.

(b) The request has been noted and no allotment of North Indian sugar has been made during February and March.

(c) Sugar allotted from North Indian Sugar Mills to Madras State during 1960 was as under:—

1960	Tons	1960	Tons
January .	2,000	July	7,000
February .	2,000	August .	5,000
March .	2,000	September	5,000
April .	3,000	October .	6,733
May .	3,489	November.	5,000
June .	5,000	December	4,156

Kharam Lok and Mungshangkong Hydro Schemes in Manipur

1883. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made regarding Kharam Lok and Mungshangkong Hydro schemes in Manipur;

(b) whether survey and investigation work regarding these schemes have been completed; and

(c) when they are likely to be implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). Investigations on the Kharam Lok scheme were completed and the project has been cleared by the Advisory Committee of the Planning Commission for Irrigation, Flood Control and Power Projects. Construction is expected to start shortly.

The Mungshangkong scheme, on preliminary investigations, has been found to be uneconomical, and is not likely to be taken up.

Supply of Equipment to Agriculturists in Manipur

1884. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether material and equipment were supplied to agriculturists in the Block areas under T.C.M. programme in Manipur during 1960-61; and

(b) if so, whether they were supplied free of cost or on payment and the amount of money spent in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). Necessary information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as available.