

process is effective and economically sound. No experiments have yet been undertaken on the protection of palmyra leaves against decay and insect attack. As regards protection of thatch grass against fire, the preliminary experiments indicate that treated thatch grass could be compressed into boards which can resist fire damage to a certain extent. No such work has been done on palmyra leaves.

(b) The process consists of impregnation with suitable chemicals. In the case of thatch grass, this is also compressed into boards. As the work is still in the preliminary stages only, nothing can be said about the durability of the treated material at this stage.

Contracts on Railway Station to Co-operative Societies

1811. **Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any co-operative societies of the petty contractors or otherwise have been given contracts on Railway Stations for running restaurants, tea stalls, fruit stalls pan shops etc;

(b) if so, what is the number of such societies; and

(c) on what Railway Stations are they working?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a), (b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Railway Overbridge near Bandra Station

1812. **Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to construct a Railway overbridge near Bandra Railway station, on the Bombay-Ahmedabad National Highway;

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of this bridge;

(c) when the work is likely to commence; and

(d) when it will be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 31 lakhs (Approx.) for the works within the railway limits.

(c) Already commenced in November, 1960.

(d) The work is programmed to be completed by 31-12-1961.

Postal Staff and Branch Post Offices in Maharashtra

1813. **Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number of cities having a population of more than a lakh in the State of Maharashtra according to the 1961 Census;

(b) the strength of postal staff of different categories in the above cities;

(c) the number of branch post offices in these cities;

(d) the number of daily deliveries sanctioned in each city;

(e) whether it is a fact that the staff position of different categories is short at Malegaon district Nasik comparatively;

(f) if so, what efforts are being made to increase the staff;

(g) whether it is also a fact that the staff position was verified in November, 1960; and

(h) if so, with what result?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) to (d). Two statements containing the required information are placed

on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3138/61].

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Yes.

(h) Based on the review, additional staff as justified was sanctioned in December 1960 and April 1961.

जापानी कुष्ठ विशेषज्ञ

१८१४. श्री सरजू पांडेय : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री १४ मार्च १९६१ के अतिरिक्त प्रश्न संख्या १६७५ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या जापानी कुष्ठ विशेषज्ञ भारत आ गये हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन्होंने इस रोग की रोक थाम के लिये क्या मुझाव दिये हैं ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) :

(क) जी हां । जापानी विशेषज्ञ २७ मई, १९६१ को भारत आ गये हैं ।

(ख) उन्होंने, अभी कोई मुझाव नहीं दिये हैं ।

ग्राम हड़ताल में भाग लेने के कारण रेलवे के निलम्बित कर्मचारी

१८१५. श्री सरजू पांडेय : क्या रेलवे मंत्री ग्राम हड़ताल में भाग लेने के कारण रेलवे में निलम्बित कर्मचारियों के बारे में १४ मार्च, १९६१ के अतिरिक्त प्रश्न १६५४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पूर्व, दक्षिण-पूर्वी और पूर्वोत्तर सीमांत रेलवे के हड़तालियों के सारे मामले निबटा दिये गये हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन का ब्योरा क्या है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री लॉ. वें. राम-स्वामी) : (क) और (ख). पिछली ग्राम हड़ताल के सम्बन्ध में इन रेलों पर ज

कर्मचारी मुअत्तिल किये गये थे उनमें से निम्नलिखित के अतिरिक्त सभी के मामले निबटा दिये गये हैं :—

(१) पूर्व रेलवे .

विभागीय जांच हो रही है २
अदालत में १

(२) दक्षिण-पूर्व रेलवे :

विभागीय जांच हो रही है ३*

(३) पूर्वोत्तर सीमा रेलवे
कोई नहीं ।

*इन तीनों मामलों में आरोप-पत्र (charge sheet) दे दिया गया है, लेकिन 'कारण बताओ नोटिस' जारी होने के बाद कर्मचारियों ने अदालत में मुकदमा दायर कर दिया और अदालत ने व्यादेश (injunction) जारी करके रेल-प्रशासन को आगे कार्रवाई करने से रोक दिया है ।

Train Collision at Jalgaon Station

1816. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a special train coming from Bhillai collided with a goods train standing at Jalgaon Station near Raigarh and twelve persons were injured on the 9th June, 1961;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any special inquiry was set up;

(d) if so, the results thereof; and

(e) whether any persons were arrested?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). On 4-6-1961 at about 11:35 hours at Janga station on Howrah-Nagpur section of South Eastern Railway, the Up Bhillai Special Goods train collided with a Down Material train. As a result of the accident, seven labourers on the material train were injured.