

the Purlī-Vaijnath Station of the Central Railway, giving the particulars and the amount of thefts and pickpocketing during 1959-60 and 1960-61;

(b) what efforts have been made to punish the offenders;

(c) whether it is a fact that the above has been a permanent feature on this station; and

(d) in how many cases the amounts have been recovered and made good to the passengers during the above period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Statement giving the required particulars, is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 71].

(b) Vigorous investigation of the cases reported, is promptly undertaken and thorough enquiries made about the known criminals operating in the area affected.

A watch is also kept on the known black spots and patrolling has been intensified.

(c) An analysis of the over-all crime position shows that the situation at Purlī-Vaijnath hardly warrants any anxiety and is well under control.

Panchayati Raj

2678. Shri Rami Reddy: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Committee for evaluating the implementation of Panchayat Raj and its working has been appointed by either the Centre or any State Government; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of reference?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri M. S. Murthy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Telephone Subscribers in Malegaon

2679. Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone subscribers with extensions in Malegaon, district Nasik;

(b) the number of telephone operators at the above place, and what should be the justified number;

(c) the strength of new subscribers sanctioned over and above the present strength; and

(d) the capacity of the present board of connections and what efforts are being made to increase the strength of the Board?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Main connections—191; Extensions—34.

(b) 8 telephone operators. This number is justified on the number of boards existing at present.

(c) About 95 connections would be given when additional 100 lines are installed at the end of August, 1961.

(d) The present capacity is 200 lines. The 200-line board is expected to be replaced by a 300-line board by the end of August, 1961. Further expansion by 100 lines has also been sanctioned.

Rajasthan-Kandla Port Road

2680. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhad: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration to have Rajasthan and Kandla Port Road; and

(b) if so, the total expenses and the contribution by each State—Rajasthan and Gujarat?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No proposal for any new road between the Kandla