

(c) whether the Mazdoors will have to face retrenchment by Government; and
(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) and (b). Casual labourers in unskilled categories are engaged on Haldia—Panskura Rail Link Construction. Their minimum rate of wages is Rs. 3.50 per day which has been increased from Rs. 3.03, only in November, 1970.

(c) and (d). As casual labourers are engaged specifically for the duration of the works, they have to be discharged on completion of such works.

Memorandum to Government by Catering Vendors Union, Howrah on Eastern Railway

5378. **SHRI A. K. SAHA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Catering Vendors' Union, Howrah on the Eastern Railway in regard to their grievances;

(b) if so, the main demands of the workers; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-693/71.*]

Survey of River Sankhi at Border of Madhya Pradesh and Bihar

5379. **SHRI UMED SINGH RATHIA:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have surveyed the River Sankhi on the border of Madhya Pradesh and Bihar;

(b) if so, the outcome of the same; and

(c) whether Government propose to construct a bridge over the same which will give facilities to both the States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL): (a) to (c). The Bihar State Electricity Board have investigated a hydro-electric project on the Sankhi river and have prepared a report. The project will have an installed capacity of 594 MW. The project does not provide for a road bridge. It is not included in the Fourth Plan but is proposed for the decade plan (1971-1981).

The Ministry of Shipping & Transport have also not so far received any proposal for a road bridge on the Sankhi river.

Electrification in Dharam Zila and Jaigarh to Jaspur in District Raigarh (Madhya Pradesh)

5380. **SHRI UMED SINGH RATHIA:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of villages are without electricity in Dharam Zila and Jaigarh to Jaspur in District Raigarh, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the steps Government contemplate to provide electricity to these villages, especially for tube-well purposes; and

(c) the time by which this work is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The following schemes have been taken up by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board:—

(i) Energisation of 302 pumps in 23 villages in Dharam Jaigarh-Pathalgaon and Lylunga-Kudba areas is in progress. So far 161 pumps have been energised.

(ii) 39 pumps have been energised in 13 villages in Patalgaon-Vijaynagar-Kapur area.

(iii) 20 pumpsets have been energised in 5 villages in Patalgaon-Sitapur-Bathauli area.

(iv) Energisation of 228 pumps in 17 villages in Patalgaon-Kunpuri area is in progress. 210 pumps have been energised so far in 16 villages.