

Bridges in Madras State

2944. **Shri Sivasankaran:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that at several stations in Madras State like Nungambakkam and Melnambakkam there are over-bridges on one side;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct the other side of the over-bridges;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) the reasons for the delay?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) It is presumed that the Hon'ble member is referring to the Suburban Station in Madras City. If so the answer is in the affirmative.

(b) to (d). At the time of original construction, access to the stations from only one side was adequate. Colonies have since sprung up on both sides and the railway is providing access from the opposite side by extending the over-bridges on a programmed basis in these cases.

At Nungambakkam, the work has been sanctioned and is being taken up. Similar proposals for Meenam-bakkam are under consideration.

New Station between St. Thomas Mount and Meenam-bakkam

2945. **Shri Sivasankaran:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made by the citizens of Pazavanthanal to open a new station in between St. Thomas Mount and Meenam-bakkam; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal for providing a flag station between St. Thomas Mount and Meenam-bakkam stations was examined but not agreed to for want of adequate justification.

Fishing Boats

2946. **Shri Sezhiyan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the State-wise figures of—

(i) mechanised fishing boats;

(ii) the annual catch of fish from the sea by mechanised fishing boats; and

(iii) the deep-sea fishing ports now in use?

The Deputy Minister in the Minister of Food (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(i) The number of mechanised fishing boats in various States at the end of 1961 was as follows:—

1. Maharashtra	1,374
2. Kerala	197
3. Mysore	59
4. Orissa	17
5. Andhra Pradesh	37
6. West Bengal	6
7. Madras	90
8. Gujarat	330

Total : 2,110

(ii) Figures of total annual catch by mechanised fishing boats are not available. The average catch by a mechanised boat is about three times that of an ordinary boat.

(iii) The Deep Sea Fishing Ports now in use are as follows:—

1. Veraval	(Gujarat)
2. Bombay	(Maharashtra)
3. Cochin	(Kerala)
4. Tuticorin	(Madras)
5. Visakhapatnam	(Andhra Pradesh)

Level Crossings

2947. **Shri Man Singh P. Patel:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of manned and unmanned level crossings from

Ahmedabad to Siddhpur on Ahmedabad-Delhi metre-gauge line on Western Railway;

(b) whether there is any plan to increase additional men at each crossing in the next four years; and

(c) the normal time for which the gates at such crossings near a station or a village are closed?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Seventy Three only.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Normally not exceeding ten minutes at a time. A few level crossings on unimportant roads near stations are closed to road traffic at night, as there is practically no traffic on the road. In rare cases when such Level Crossing is required to be opened during the night, the road user has to approach the Station Master for opening the level crossing.

Plants for Groundnut Flour

2948. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two pilot plants for the manufacture of edible groundnut flour are expected to go into production at Bombay and Coimbatore this year; and

(b) if so, how it is likely to affect the manufacture of vanaspati products?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes; arrangements are in progress.

(b) Not directly concerned with vanaspati. However the oil recovered during the production of edible groundnut flour will be superior in quality to the normal groundnut oil which is one of the raw materials used in vanaspati manufacture.

Appointment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Eastern Railway

**2949. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the short-fall in reserved vacancies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Eastern Railway in class III service of various categories has been filled up in 1961-62;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any drive was made to fill up this short-fall; and

(d) if so, the nature of drive?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). In most of the recruitment categories there is no shortfall but only excess recruitment of Scheduled Castes/Tribes in some cases. There is however a shortfall in promotion vacancies where the decision to reserve posts was taken only recently. The reservation quota here can be completely filled only when the recruits from these communities gain enough experience to make them suitable for promotion.

(c) Yes.

(d) Special selections were arranged for filling up reserved vacancies. The Selection Boards were instructed to apply relaxed standards in the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The candidates of these communities are also given additional training and coaching in order to bring them upto the standard of others.

The posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Tribes are also given wide publicity in order to attract all qualified candidates.