

together with copies of certain resolution etc. relating to grievances of staff consequent to the orders shifting the Construction Offices from Calcutta to Bilaspur has been received from the South Eastern Railwaymen's Union.

(c) and (d). No special action was necessary. The position was explained on the floor of the House by the Deputy Minister for Railways on 27-3-1962 in his reply to the Railway Budget Debates. The attention of the House is also drawn to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1058 in this House on 25-5-1962.

Railway Bridge Mishap in Moradabad

3016. Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a railway bridge mishap took place in Moradabad in May, 1962;

(b) if so, the damage incurred; and

(c) the cause of the mishap?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes. An accident took place on 27-5-1962 at the Solani Bridge at mile 490/8-18 between Dausni and Landhaura stations on Moradabad Division.

(b) The end panels of the bottom chords and one cross girder of a 150 ft. span girder were damaged. The cost of the damage is estimated as Rs. 6,500. As a result of the accident, one man lost his life, and 19 were injured, out of which 4 received grievous injuries.

(c) An enquiry is in progress to determine the cause of the accident.

सहकारी समितियां

३०१७. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सामुदायिक विकास, पंचायती राज और सहकार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार छोटे आकार की सहकारी समितियों को

अपना रही है जबकि रिजर्व बैंक बड़े आकार की सहकारी समितियों को बढ़ावा देने के पक्ष में है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस के क्या कारण हैं ?

सामुदायिक विकास, पंचायती राज और सहकार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री श्यामधर मिश्र) : (क) जी नहीं। प्राथमिक कृषि उद्योग समितियों के संगठन तथा आकार के प्रतिरूप के बारे में जो नीति सम्बन्धी निर्णय किये गये हैं वे सरकार तथा रिजर्व बैंक के समत निर्णयों के आघात पर हैं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Jet Flights by Air India International

3018. Shri Ravindra Varma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Intercontinental jet flights of the Air India International on routes to Europe and New York are frequently subjected to delays of more than 12 hours;

(b) if so, whether Government will lay on the Table a statement showing the number of such flights which have been subjected to such delays during the last three months;

(c) whether any enquiry has been made into the causes of these frequent delays; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) During the period March to May, 1962, only three Air-India's Jet flights, on these routes, were delayed by more than 12 hours.

(b) to (d). A statement giving brief details of the flights delayed and causes thereof is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV annexure No. 25].

According to normal procedure, all delays on all counts are

investigated by the Corporation. However, delays due to mechanical reasons of duration of 30 minutes and over are investigated in detail, both by the Corporation's Technical Department Investigation Section and the Aeronautical Inspection Branch of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation. Remedial and preventive measures are taken in the light of the investigation reports.

Since the overall position of the operation of these flights is satisfactory, no special enquiry is considered necessary.

Sea Island Cotton

3019. Shri Ravidra Varma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land on which Sea Island Cotton is being grown in India;

(b) the acreage under the Sea Island Cotton in Kerala and the districts of Kerala in which the crop is being grown;

(c) the average yield per acre in Kerala and its money value;

(d) what schemes Government have for increasing the acreage under sea island cotton in Kerala during the Third Five Year Plan period; and

(e) whether Government are experiencing any difficulty in their drive to increase the area under this crop in Kerala?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) The total area of land on which Sea-Island Cotton was grown in India during 1961-62 was 2,997.75 acres.

(b) The acreage under Sea-Island Cotton in Kerala during 1961-62 was 872.75 acres. The crop was mostly grown in the districts of Trichur,

Palghat Kozhikode, Ernakulam and Kottayam.

(c) The average yield per acre obtained in Kerala during 1961-62 was 110 kgm. of kapas (seed cotton) valued at Rs. 253.

(d) It is proposed to expand cultivation of Sea-Island Cotton in Kerala by reclamation of fallow lands reported to be available in Palghat district. Loan in kind will be given to the cotton growers for seeds and fertilizers. Plant protection materials will be supplied on 50 per cent subsidy.

(e) Contrary to expectations, the area under Sea-Island Cotton in Kerala had not only not been stabilised in any particular area but actually showed a tendency to decline. The scheme had also to face competition from other plantation crops yielding better returns with less amount of attention and care. The Kerala part of the scheme is being reorganised with a view to concentrate attention in three regions viz., Districts of Palghat, Kozhikode, and Trichur.

Goods Trains involved in Accidents

3020. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Railway accidents in which goods trains or shunting goods wagons were involved during the past six months;

(b) whether such accidents have of late been on the increase;

(c) if so, the reasons for this increase; and

(d) what steps are being taken to avoid all such accidents in future?

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

(a) The statistics as maintained by the various railways give separate figures for collisions involving and derailments to 'Other than Passenger Trains'. This category includes both through goods trains as well as shunting goods trains. The figures of such