

(c) The information is being collected.

Tourist Offices in Foreign Countries

3253. { Shri Brahmjeet Singh:
 { Shri Bade:
 { Shri Kachhavaia:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) how many tourist offices of the Indian Government are there in foreign countries; and

(b) what was the expenditure in foreign exchange over them in 1961-62?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a). Eight.

(b) Rs. 19.00 lakhs approximately.

Railway Line between Ranchi and Bondamunda on S. E. Railway

3254. { Shri Yogendra Jha:
 { Shri David Munzni:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction of railway line between Ranchi and Bondamunda on the South Eastern Railway has been discontinued; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this sudden stoppage of work?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). The work on Hatia-Nawagaon section of the Ranchi-Bondamunda line beyond Mile 40 to Nawagaon, a total distance of about 42 miles, was brought to a halt from about the middle of May, 1962, by villagers on the plea of compensation for land not having been paid to them. The Deputy Commissioner, Ranchi, intervened in the matter and undertook to make immediate arrangements for payment of compensation

for land acquired for the line. The payment of compensation has already started and the villagers are now causing no obstruction to the progress of the work which has been resumed since 23rd May, 1962

Telephone Connections in Gujarat State

3255. **Shri Man Singh P. Patel:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) how many telephone connections are pending in Ahmedabad, Capital of Gujarat State;

(b) how many telephone connections are pending in each Headquarter of revenue district in Gujarat State;

(c) whether Government have taken special steps to end this long pending list at each place including the capital; and

(d) whether Government expect to do away with the pending list?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) 3570.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 45].

(c) and (d). Action is being taken in respect of each place including the capital as indicated in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV annexure No. 46]. Completion of the Schemes envisaged will depend upon the availability of resources.

Monthly Ticket Fare for Travellers between Delhi and Ghaziabad

3256. { Shri Bishanchander Seth:
 { Shri Basumatari:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal to revise the fare of monthly ticket holders travelling between Ghaziabad and Delhi so as to bring the same at par with those charged