

Post Offices Running at Loss

3608. Shri Kajrolkar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) total number of Post Offices opened during the First and Second Five Year Plans and how many of them are running at loss beyond the permissible limit; and

(b) what total loss Government are incurring on such Post Offices?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) and (b). Post Offices opened in First Five Year Plan —18,948.

Second Five Year Plan —22,231.

The rest of the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as early as possible.

रामगंज पर हाल्ट स्टेशन

३६०६. श्री रणजय सिंह : क्या रेलवे मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इलाहाबाद-मुलतानपुर-फैजाबाद लाइन पर खूंदौर और पीपरपुर स्टेशनों के बीच "रामगंज" में स्टेशन बनाने के लिये रेलवे अधिकारियों ने जांच-पड़ताल की थी ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उस पर क्या कार्य-वाही की जा रही है ; और

(ग) यदि स्टेशन बनाने में विलम्ब हो, तो क्या वहाँ पर हाल्ट स्टेशन का प्रबन्ध किया जायगा ?

रेलवे मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सॅ० वें० रामस्वामी) : (क) से (ग). शुरू में इस जगह एक झंझट स्टेशन बनाने का विचार था, लेकिन जमीन मिलने में कठिनाई होने से अब यह ट्रेन हाल्ट बनाने के सवाल पर विचार किया जा रहा है ।

Liberalisation of Study Leave Rules

3610. Shri Jedhe: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that when Dr. Joseph of Indian Agricultural Research Institute committed suicide, it was stated in the House that Government was considering the liberalisation of the rules relating to Study Leave;

(b) if so, the decision since taken; and

(c) the action taken to implement the decision?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 78].

Import of Steel for Wharf Crane, Calcutta Port

3611. Shri Nath Pai: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the contract for the import and supply of a certain quantity of tested steel for the manufacture of the wharf crane for the Port of Calcutta was given to a Calcutta firm in the year 1959;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the steel supplied by the said contractors failed to satisfy the required specifications and the latter wanted 90 percent cash payment on the basis of allegedly tampered documents;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the case went up for investigation by the Enforcement Branch of the Calcutta Police who reported as early as 1959 that it was a fit case for police prosecution;

(d) if so, what action has been taken by the Commissioner of Port of Calcutta on the recommendations of