

to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2576 on the 10th September, 1959 and state the progress since made in removing the disparity in the scales of pay of the Inspectors and Progressmen of Perambur Workshops?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): The Southern Railway's proposal for introduction of the scale of Rs. 60-130 for Progressmen in the Perambur Workshops has been agreed to. As regards the scale of pay of Progress Inspectors, the matter is under examination.

Mosquitoes in Delhi

1259. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the weather conditions in Delhi this season are favourable to mosquitoes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the situation?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) Yes, during spring season every year.

(b) Intensified anti-larval operations in Delhi Urban Area are taken from the 15th February every year. For this purpose additional seasonal staff is recruited. The technical staff of the Anti-malaria Operations, Delhi, carry out continuous independent checking in all the breeding places. Any complaints received from any source are attended to immediately and the personnel of the Antimalaria Operations made an on the spot investigation and communicate the results to the executive staff for an early action. Timely Press Notes are issued to acquaint the public with the appropriate precautionary measures that they should take their active co-operation in the Programme is also sought.

Nethravathi Bridge near Mangalore

1260. Shri Achar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to

Unstarred Question No. 146 on the 4th August, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the construction work of Nethravathi bridge near Mangalore on the West Coast Road has actually been taken up; and

(b) if not, the reasons for delay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government of Mysore have consulted us in regard to the acceptance of tenders for the work. It is hoped that the matter will be finalised shortly.

12.05 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENTS TO INDIAN TELEGRAPH RULES

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, a copy of Notification No. S.O. 627, dated the 12th March, 1960 making certain amendments to the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2000/60].

REPORT OF GANGA BRAHMAPUTRA WATER TRANSPORT BOARD

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board for the year 1959. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2001/60].

AMENDMENTS TO MEDICINAL AND TOILET PREPARATIONS (EXCISE DUTIES) RULES

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 19 of the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955, a copy of

[Dr. B. Gopala Reddi]

each of the following Notifications making certain further amendments to the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Rules, 1956:—

- (i) G.S.R. 269, dated the 5th March, 1960.
- (ii) G.S.R. 270, dated the 5th March, 1960.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2002/60].

NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under subsection (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of each of the following Notifications:—

- (i) G.S.R. 226, dated the 27th February, 1960.
- (ii) G.S.R. 287, dated the 2nd March, 1960 making certain further amendments to the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1955.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2063/60].

12.06 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

TRAIN COLLISION AT KISHANGANJ STATION

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Railways to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The train collision at Kisenganj station of the North-East Frontier Railway on the 16th March, 1960.”

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): At about 05-50 hours on 10-3-1960 while No. 22 Down Amingaon-Katihar Passenger

was entering Kishanganj, a station on Siliguri-Katihar Section of Northeast Frontier Railway, it collided head-on with a Military Special which was already standing on one of the reception lines at the station. As a result of this, the train engine of the Passenger train derailed by all wheels and the three bogies next to it also derailed and capsized. Though the train engine of the Military Special suffered only a slight damage, it did not derail. Two other vehicles and a III Class coach, which formed a part of the Military Special, however, derailed and capsized.

In consequence of this, 21 persons sustained injuries of whom four were grievous. The injured persons include 17 military personnel and four railway staff. The Driver and Fireman of 22 Dn. Passenger, after being rendered first aid were discharged. The remaining persons were first given treatment in the Civil Hospital, Kishanganj. Later 5 of them, including 3 seriously injured, were admitted into Katihar Railway Hospital and 3 others into Siliguri Military Hospital and the remaining were discharged. Subsequently, one more person was discharged from hospital. The latest reports indicate that all the seven injured persons are progressing satisfactorily.

Medical and relief trains were sent from Katihar and Siliguri to the site of the accident. General Manager, Northeast Frontier Railway, accompanied by his principal officers, as also the District Officers, visited the site of the accident.

The interruption to communication caused by the accident was restored by 11.30 hours on 10-3-1960.

The cause of the accident is not known yet.

The Government Inspector of Railways has commenced holding his statutory enquiry from the 14th instant.